

one of his ribs, that he might love her as a part of himself: and then it was that God instituted matrimony. He also placed Adam and Eve in the earthly Paradise, or the delicious garden of Eden, with leave to eat of all the fruits there except the fruit of the tree of knowledge, which he forbid them under pain of death: and this was the only mark of obedience which God required from them. Here they conversed with God, and lived happily; and if they had not sinned, would never have died.

§ 2. *Of the Fall of Man by Sin.* Gen. ii.

God in the beginning had also created an innumerable multitude of pure spirits, of a superior nature to man, whom we call the Angels: some of these fell from God by sin, and were condemned to hell. These are the devils, or wicked spirits, who, through malice and envy, make it their business to tempt men, and to cause them to revolt from God. One of these malicious spirits entered into a serpent, and persuaded the woman to eat of the fruit of the forbidden tree: she eat of it, and gave some to her husband, who also eat of it. In that moment their eyes were opened to see and be ashamed of their nakedness, and the rebellion of the flesh against the spirit, and to know the good they had lost of the original grace and innocence. Thus they incurred the sentence of death, both temporal and eternal, became slaves of the devil, liable to all sorts of evils, weak to all kind of good, and strangely propense to concupiscence; which is a disorderly love and desire of gratifying ourselves, that turns us off from the love of God, and is the source of all our sins. However, that man might not be left without hope or comfort in his misery, God was pleased even then to reveal and promise to him a Saviour and Redeemer, to come of the seed of the woman, who

thou
tro
lieve
Para
§
ral
A
fall,
tion
were
drēn
being
pleas
Abel,
Upon
and h
the ti
anoth
of a r
solem
Gen.
nan w
Jared
with
cause
Math
years,
the sc
and L
were
descer
called
of the
they a
filled
them