

MEDITATION

Jesus remains on the Altar, that Every One may be able to find Him.



t. Teresa said, that in this world it is impossible for all subjects to speak to the king. As for the poor, the most they can hope for is, to speak with him by means of some third person. But to speak with Thee, O King of Heaven, there is no need of third persons; for every one that wishes can find Thee in the Most Holy Sacrament, and can speak to Thee at his pleasure and without restraint. For this reason, said the same saint, Jesus Christ has concealed his majesty in the Sacrament, under the appearance of bread, in order to give us more confidence, and to take away from us all fear of approaching him.

Oh, how Jesus seems continually to exclaim from the altar: Come to Me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will refresh you. Come, he says, come, you poor: come, you infirm; come, you afflicted; come, you just and you sinners, and you shall find in me a remedy for all your losses and afflictions: such is the desire of Jesus Christ; to console every one who has recourse to him, he remains day and night on our altars, that he may be found by all, and that he may bestow favours upon all. Hence the saints experienced in this world such pleasure in remaining in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, that days and nights appeared to them as moments.

The Countess of Feria having become a nun of the Order of St. Clare, was never wearied of remaining in the choir in sight of the tabernacle: being asked one day what she was doing so long before the Most Holy Sacrament, she answered with surprise: “What do I do before the Blessed Sacrament? what do I do ? I return thanks, I love and I pray!” St. Philip Neri being in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, exclaimed: “Behold my love, behold all my love!” Ah, if Jesus were thus our whole love, days and nights in his presence would appear also to us as moments.

(The Holy Eucharist – St. Alphonsus Maria de Liguori.)