

shadow of HIS Passion was already darkening over the land, HE went before them, and they were amazed ; " and as they followed they were afraid." Even then their Master was to them a mystery, which they had no power to penetrate. As HE passed along at their head, full of heroic resolve, isolated in an atmosphere of unearthly majesty, their habitual reverence rose into astonishment and awe. Surely something great, something terrible, was impending, they must have felt. Something of the same awe, the same fear, must have been produced on this occasion. The awful, heavenly majesty was become more and more visible and habitual. Their LORD is living no longer the life of earth, but the life of Heaven. The effluence of the Unapproachable Majesty is about HIM. When HE speaks it is as if HE were speaking to them from Heaven. We know with what " shuddering fear and trembling, which makes all his bones to shake," (Job iv., 14, 15), man recognizes the presence of a visitant from the Unseen ; and this must have mingled with and transformed the feelings of the attendant disciples towards JESUS. Henceforth they were to regard HIM in another manner than that which it had been hitherto their privilege to maintain towards HIM. Though they had " known CHRIST after the flesh, yet henceforth they were to know HIM no more," (2 Cor. v., 16). In place of attachment to an earthly Friend, of intellectual admiration and warm human love for a wise Rabbi, an amiable companion and fellow comrade along the ways of human life, was to be substituted loyalty and devotion to an absent LORD, awful reverence and lowly self-sacrifice for the Divine SON of GOD, Himself " GOD blessed for ever."

Doubtless a dim consciousness of this, and all that it implied, hung upon every movement of the disciples, and rendered their words few. When HE came and went among them, " it was as though an angel shook HIS wings." And thus we cannot but think that this strange and solemn walk was a silent one on the part of the disciples. Whether any part of the teachings which HE gave them of " the things pertaining to the Kingdom of GOD " is to be referred to this last day of all we cannot tell. . . The Master points them to vistas of the future, in which these, humble and untaught as they were, somewhat rash aspirants to high functions, should indeed be " Princes of the Church," but in a way which as yet they knew not. They had thought of the power and honour and splendour of the high offices of CHRIST's Kingdom ; but HE reminds them, as of old, " Whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister ; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant." (S. Matt. xx., 26.) Such a fundamental law of HIS Kingdom came as a sobering