

"If thou be the Son of God, command this stone to be made bread." To prove Himself the Son of God and to give life, was an important part of Christ's mission. But to do so, in order to save His own life (if it were possible apart from His own consent to die), He could not. He was thus placed in a dilemma: He had either to obey the conditions named by the tempter, or die with the object of His mission frustrated. Notwithstanding all these evil circumstances, His kingly decision is to await the disposition of His heavenly Father. This is evidenced in the words of his reply: "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

To bring the spirit as here shown requires greater courage and wisdom than to take a city. To win men to follow this example, is to do away with the necessity of law, by making them superior to it.

The life here manifest is the resurrection and the