

only plan which would enable Him to overcome the obstinate waywardness of His brethren was to show them their sin its ultimate consequence, to let their sin work out its logic to the bitter end. Then perchance they would discern what it was that ailed them.

It is likely that Jesus was helped to this conclusion by reflecting upon the experience of the prophets and upon the picture of "the suffering servant" of God. But it seems clear that He deliberately accepted for Himself the position of *foil* to the mounting sin of His brethren. He set His face steadfastly toward Jerusalem because He chose to reveal to men the nature of their moral trouble by suffering in His own person its utmost consequences before their eyes. And so at last it came to pass.

What happened to Jesus had in kind happened before. It had happened to Jeremiah, it happened wheresoever a prophet was stoned. The same thing is happening to-day. The sin of man is working out its remorseless logic on the battlefields of Europe. But the Cross has its own uniqueness. Historical judgments upon human sin—such as the present war—are seen through the haze of human imperfections in a twilight of mixed motives of good and evil; and the innocent suffer with the guilty. But when sin broke upon Jesus, it was seen in its true colour, darkness against light, black against white, with no blurred edges and no twilight zone; and the innocent suffered alone. It is this which invests the Cross with a super-historic quality; it is a revelation of something like absolute moral values. Hell seemed to be burning through in Jerusalem