

ration : " It is written." And when even Satan sets about, consequently, to use Scripture, He does not leave this ground, but says, " it is written again." Impossible to give a more striking testimony to where truth and power were to be found to baffle the enemy. He was led of the Spirit to this solemn conflict, that He might bind the strong man, and deliver men, spoiling his goods. But His victory was founded on a forged imposture, something that Jeremiah's fanaticism and Huldah and the chief priest's deceit got up to try and work a reformation : but in vain. So they tell us. I suppose the devil must have been a prejudiced Jew too, to let himself be silenced in this way ! He was more blind and easily cheated than we are led to suppose.

Poor John the Baptist too ! He was misleading the people, for he quotes the Scriptures as testifying of himself. But that was all a mistake. How many am I to cite of them ? In Matthew half the things which he recites are fulfilments of prophecies—some expressly so in purpose. But this was all a delusion.

When Jonas and Solomon are cited by the Lord, God knows what the cases are worth. When the Lord contrasted one of the ten commandments as the commandment of God with man's tradition—He made a gross mistake in condemning the scribes thus. It was no more such than the tradition. It may have been a more respectable tradition ; but the ground which the Lord laid it on