

coming, or was Peter speaking at random as a man who cared for no proof when he declared, "We believe and are sure that Thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God"? Nay, the proof is in the verse preceding, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life." St. Peter, then, at least had learned the lesson, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word which proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Of the walking on the sea I shall say little beyond pointing out how significant is the utter absence of anything like display attending it. When the Tempter had urged Him to cast Himself from the pinnacle of the temple, the only purpose would have been to create an effect, and Jesus refused. Taking place publicly in the presence of numbers it might have made a great stir for the moment, but Jesus cared not for that. He, however, who thus declined to commit Himself to the air, did yet on one occasion commit Himself to the waves, and He was miraculously borne up. But He was alone, and it was in the darkness of the night. None saw Him save the disciples in the boat, and, whether or no it was that He charged them to keep it secret, no allusion was ever made to it afterwards; and when asked the question by the people, "Rabbi, when camest Thou hither?" He avoided making answer. For a mere enthusiasm for the marvellous as the marvellous was exactly at that moment what He was most concerned to repress. Is not all this in keeping with the resolve attained through the Temptation, to make no presumptuous and capricious use of His Divine gifts for mere display? What was the real bearing of the temptation in question? asks Professor Godet. "With God power is always employed in the service of goodness, of love; this is the difference between God and Satan, between Divine miracle and diabolical sorcery. Now the devil in this instance aims at nothing less than making Jesus pass from one of these spheres to the other." But it was in vain. And it is indeed beautiful to think how in the darkness of that stormy night upon the Sea of Galilee that power was employed in the service of goodness and love, which the devil, could he have directed it, would have