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verdure and beauty to emerge from beneath the waters of the deluge. The dove of the Jordan was a pledge to the Christ of a new heaven and a new earth to follow upon His deluge in suffering and death.

The dove is the emblem of Faithfulness. There is a wonderful homing instinct in the heart of the dove, of which men have availed themselves since the days of Noah. May it not be that we have here a hint of the faithfulness of the divine Spirit to His home in the heart of Christ? The soul of Jesus was the chosen nest of the heavenly dove. Nor was it ever abandoned. However far the Son might be tossed upon the billows of temptation or of pain, the Spirit abode with Him, His solace and His strength. Even so will He abide in the soul of every child of God.

The dove was the poor man's Altar-gift. When the worshipper could present no costlier offering, he might bring a dove and be accepted. Does not the descending dove witness to the fact that the poorest of men may avail themselves of the sacrifice of Christ? When we turn to the message with which Jesus a little later opened His teaching ministry we can almost hear the fluttering wings of the heavenly dove in the gracious words, "The