

and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself." What was He doing? And here no stupid, blasphemous pretext about His having the prejudices of the Jews is of any avail. He was risen. I suppose He was freed from prejudices by that time. But what shall we say? It was not Moses; and the testimony of Scripture was no really inspired prophetic testimony; consequently, not about Himself. The risen Lord misled, as much as when walking, before His death, on the earth. And Christians are to believe this! But He goes a step farther. He uses divine power over their minds as to it. Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures; and said unto them: "Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer"—opened divinely their understanding to understand forgeries, or even, if you please, the rhapsodies of patriotic bards and pious compositions from old legends. Is not that singular? We have no truth as to Christ and what He did, if this be so; for what is ascribed to Him as risen and divinely operating on men's minds was never pressed in in respect of an imposture. The utmost foundation was an obscure legend, patched up into a false story, and He not only mistook, when risen, all about it, but opened divinely their understanding to understand it!

Further, the Lord Himself quotes, as His reply to Satan, the Scriptures with the emphatic decla-