

pale clay, the flesh once more cleaved to the bone, and the soul, from its unknown sojourn, came back to its desert habitation, to possess it once more with quickening life, and all at the bidding of a man who appeared as one of the sons of men.

But he cannot be of the sons of men whose voice could speak to things that are not as though they were. That could not be the voice of man which the disinherited clay, and the disembodied soul, at once obeyed. It was the same voice that said to another dead man, "Lazarus come forth," and he came forth at his bidding; the same voice that cried to the wind "peace," and to the waters "be still," and instantly there was a great calm; the same voice that said to the deaf mute "Ephatha," and instantly he could hear distinctly and speak plainly. Yes, it was the first voice that was ever heard; the same that broke the silence of eternity; that said "Let there be light, and there was light;" the Power by which all things were created, in whom is life and who came to destroy death, and who said concerning Himself: "The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the son of man; and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself, so shall he give the son to have life in himself."

There are two such mighty acts recorded in the Old Testament: one done by the hand of Elijah upon the *Widow's son* of Zarephath, who gave him harbor when Israel afforded him none; the other by the hands of Elisha upon the son of the Shunamite woman, who

made for the prophet a chamber in the wall, and entertained him with bread so often as he passed on his way. These two acts of raising the dead were done by prayer to God, and in dependence on his divine power, and are to be regarded as singular dispensations of his grace, whereby he rewarded the kindness of these two widows, and magnified the prophets in their sight and in the sight of the people. There is another instance mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles, whercin St. Peter, after kneeling down and praying, raised Tabitha from the dead.

In all these cases the servants of God sought and found help of Him, taking no strength or glory unto themselves. But in this case of the widow's son of Nain, and in that of the daughter of Zairus, our Lord proceeded, without any confession of inability or request for help, to do that which belonged to Him, and was proper for Him in his own sight, and was always present to Him. In his own name and in his own power, He said to them both, "I say unto thee, arise." And when the people wondered at their power, they said, "Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? Not only did Christ in his own name work the works which he wrought, but the Apostles wrought them in his name also. By which we are to understand that He is the resurrection and the life, as he declared to the sisters of Lazarus before raising him from the dead.

"And he that was dead sat up,