

THE SUFFERINGS OF CHRIST.

Continued from No. 10.

Another awful, dreadful truth had now come out: man would not have the Deliverer. If the Lord was to persevere in interesting Himself in the wretched race, He must be, not a mighty living Deliverer by power, but a dying Redeemer. It was the path of obedience and the path of love. The prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in Me; but that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father hath given Me commandment, so I do.

But in both the cases we are now considering, we find Him still with His Father, though occupied with Him about the cup He had to drink, and His obedience only shining out in its perfection. There was no forsaking of God yet, though there was dealing with His Father about that cup which was characterized by His being forsaken of God,—“Father save Me from this hour. But for this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify Thy name.” Here He gets the answer to obedience to death in judgment, of real and complete victory, and the wide-spread opening out of the revelation of love, though the world was judged therein. But in Gethsemane all was closing in. It was the power of darkness, and the deeper agony of the Lord told itself out in few (yet how mighty) words, and sweat as it were drops of blood. But the obedience was perfect. The tempter utterly foiled, the name