

And the evidences which prove to us the existence of a Being of supernatural power, will prove likewise, that He who has all power can, with perfect harmony and right, if He see fit, interfere with the laws of nature, or suspend these laws to accomplish His own glory, the good of the Church, and the nations of the earth. It may be that the suspension of a law of nature is only the coming into operation of a higher law.

The doctrine of universal fatalism is contrary to our immediate sense of reality, and to the common consciousness of the human race. The land of scepticism is a desert.

The men who wrote the New Testament have based the truth of Christianity on a single miracle, viz., the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This miracle is the very key of the Christian position, and this position is clearly established as an historical fact. *The great purpose of miracles at first was to compel attention to the new system by the glare of grandeur it threw around it.* A finger of heavenly light must touch the head of the God-man, Jesus, and mark Him out to the world.

For more than eighteen hundred years, Jesus of Nazareth has occupied the position, in the faith of myriads of men, of a divinely superhuman person. The Gospel statements on the single subject of the resurrection of Christ do not by any means exist, as the modern sceptics have presumed to treat them, apart by themselves, in the shape of a mere isolated and unsupported literary fragment, but confront the anti-Christian critic as composing an integral portion of the volume called the Bible. The resurrection of Jesus itself is not an isolated supernatural feature in the Gospel history, but merely one of a series of most astounding miracles, with which he stands therein accredited. The historical evidence is overwhelming that the belief in the resurrection of Jesus was the starting-point of the renewed life of the Church.

The Christian Church has existed as a visible institution, without a single break in its continuity, for a period of more than eighteen centuries; and the cause of its renewed existence, after the death of its founder, was the belief in a fact, and that fact was the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. No other theory can account for the renewed life of the Christian