

pass from Me: nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt." The prayer was heard, yet the cup did not pass from Him. And why? Because the Father would glorify the Son. Had Christ underrated the weakness of the nature He had taken upon Himself to wear, He had never prayed as He did then. In that case it must have broken down under Him. It had been fatal to rest any portion of the weight upon it. Every one is familiar with the parting charge to Cromwell which Shakespeare has put into the mouth of the fallen Wolsey—

"say, I taught thee.

Say, Wolsey—that once trod the ways of glory,
And sounded all the depths and shoals of honour—
Found thee a way out of his wreck to rise in;
A sure and safe one, though thy master miss'd it.
Mark but my fall, and that that ruin'd me."

There is marvellous pathos in that, "Say, I taught thee." When a man speaks out of the abundance of his heart, out of the fulness of his own life-experience, his utterances cannot fail to carry weight. And similarly the Lord's Prayer could not be to us all it is, if it were not for the "Say, I taught thee," of Christ, Christ who once trod the ways of humiliation here on earth, who sounded all the depths and shoals of human aspiration. Yes, Christ has found us a way, but not out of His wreck, to rise in; a sure and safe one, seeing that He Himself as Man has proved it. We have but to mark His footprints, and in them plant our own. All but the sense of human weakness had gone from Him when He knelt down to pray, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me." But then and there, in absolute self-surrender to the Father's will, was realized the transmutation of this weakness into perfect strength. The Lord's Prayer is thus emphatically man's prayer, framed by the Incarnate Son of God as man for man, framed from a human standpoint, framed according to the felt needs of man by One who has worn our flesh, and is not ashamed to call us brethren, who can be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, seeing that He was in all points tempted (tried) like as we are, only without sin. When we pass, then, from considering what Jesus