

and the character of Christ's obedience. This character is not simply that the will of God is a rule; it is the one motive for action. *We* have a will *arrested* often by the word. Not so Christ. His Father's will was His motive; He acted not merely according to, but because it was God's will. We delight to see a child who would run off to something it delights in, stop, and cheerfully do its parent's will when called to do it. But Christ never obeyed thus, never sought a will of His own that was stopped by His Father's.

And we are sanctified to the obedience of Christ. Note further that *the written word* is that by which He lives and by which He overcomes. All depended here on Christ's victory, as all did on Adam's fall. But for Christ, one text (rightly used of course,) suffices. He seeks no other: that is obedience. It suffices for Satan; he has no reply. His wiles are defeated.

The first principle of conquest is simple and absolute obedience, living by words out of God's mouth. The next is perfect confidence in the path of obedience.

In the second place then, the enemy sets Him on a pinnacle of the temple, to induce Him to apply to Himself the promises made to the Messiah without abiding in the ways of God. The faithful man may assuredly reckon on the help of God while walking in His ways. The enemy would have the Son of Man put God to the test (instead of reckoning on Him while walking in His ways) to see whether He