

East, in the wise men, at the commencement of Christ's life came to Him, Gentiles from the West sought Him at its close. Philip telleth Andrew; and, "again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus." Gentiles seeking Jesus, brought His grand mission vividly before Him. It is not said that the desired interview took place, but it is said how the cross in its painfulness and glory gathered interest from the circumstance. From the painfulness He shrank,—to the glory He hastened. With the one he was troubled,—with the other, as the fulfilment of the Father's counsel and the accomplishment of His mission, He was absorbingly engrossed. "Now is my soul troubled," is the language of the one—"now is the judgment of this world; now shall the prince of this world be cast out," is the expression of the other. And then embracing both Jew and Gentile in His mediatorial gaze—comprehending the past, the present, the future results of His crucifixion, He uttered the pregnant words, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

What does Jesus mean by this lofty language? His uplifting will be the means of drawing all unto Him—not all men strictly, but *all*. The term "men" being an expletive. In what sense are we to understand this?

Let us look at some of the theories given in explanation.

Some say that the phrase is a general one, and that it simply means that Christ's teaching and life have an attraction for the entire race;—that His character