

.. Aquileia. But as there was no other Article in that symbol that related to  
 "Christ's burial; so the words which he gives us, *descendit ad inferna*, he de-  
 "scended to the lower parts, do very naturally signify burial, according to these  
 "words of St. Paul, "He ascended; what is it, but that he also descended first  
 "to the lower parts of the earth?" Eph. iv. 9. And Ruslin himself understood  
 "these words in that sense."

Burnet says more in the same place to the same effect: but I pass on to quote,  
 as I intended, from Pearson, who says:—"But Christ was really before the flood,  
 "for he preached to them that lived before it; and at the creation of the world,  
 "for he created it. That he preached to those before the flood, is evident by  
 "the words of St. Peter, who saith, that *Christ was put to death in the flesh, but*  
 "*quickened by the Spirit; by which also he went and preached unto the*  
 "*spirits in prison, which sometime were disobedient, when once the long suf-*  
 "*fering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the Ark was a preparing.*  
 "From which words it appeareth, that Christ preached by the same Spirit, by the  
 "virtue of which he was raised from the dead: but that Spirit *was not his soul*,  
 "but something of a greater power. Secondly, that those to whom he preached  
 "were such as were disobedient. Thirdly, that the time when they were disobe-  
 "dient was the time before the flood, while the Ark was preparing. *It is cer-*  
 "*tain then that Christ did preach unto those persons which in the days of Noah*  
 "*were disobedient all that time the long suffering of God waited, and, conse-*  
 "quently, so long as repentance was offered.

"It remaineth therefore that the plain interpretation be acknowledged for the  
 "true; that *Christ did preach* unto those men which lived before the flood, even  
 "while they lived, and consequently that *he* was before it. For though this was  
 "not done by an immediate act of the Son of God, as if he personally had ap-  
 "peared on earth, and actually preached to that old world; but by the ministry  
 "of a Prophet, by the sending of Noah, *the eighth preacher of righteousness*:  
 "yet to do any thing by another not able to perform it without him, as much de-  
 "monstrates the existence of the principal cause, as if he did it of himself with-  
 "out any intervening instrument. \* \* \*

"For certainly *he* which was before Abraham was in the days of Herod born  
 "of a woman; *he which preached in the days of Noah began to preach in the*  
 "*reign of Tiberius*, being at that time about thirty years of age; he was de-  
 "monstrated the Son of God with power who was the seed of David according to  
 "the flesh; *he* who died on the Cross raised him from the dead who died so, being  
 "put to death through the flesh, and quickened by the Spirit; *he* was of the  
 "fathers according to the flesh who was *God over all blessed for ever*. Seeing  
 "these and the like *actions* and *affections cannot come from the same nature*,  
 "and yet must be attributed to the same Person; as we must acknowledge a de-  
 "versity of *natures* united, so must we confess the identity of the Person in  
 "whom they are conjoined, against the ancient heresy of the Nestorians, con-  
 "demned in the Council of Ephesus. \* \* \*