

as well as moral law ; or simply the latter alone, or by a self-constituted eclectic process, the latter and a portion of the former ? Admitting as we are prepared to do, that the Bishop of Ely's statement* is perhaps somewhat rhetorical and scarcely close enough in its reasoning for a Theological manual, yet the prophecies quoted by Bishop Hopkins, as invalidating this statement, make in our opinion nothing for him. They are inapplicable to any earthly condition. They can scarcely be fulfilled except in a heavenly sense, and that very fact would suggest the idea that the literal carrying out of ceremonial observances was not signified. Does not the word "law," point to the principles of morality, which are eternal as God Himself? Even if we grant, which we are not disposed to do, that the word "all" spoken by our Saviour is to be taken as relating to every single prophecy in Scripture, and not to the Incarnation, the Atonement, the events in fact of our Lord's earthly life ; still we cannot dogmatically declare that the word "law" includes the ceremonial edicts as well as the moral precepts. And indeed if we examine the context of our Lord's remarks we shall notice that the question of externals of Ritual did not come under consideration.† Morals were the subject of His teaching, and the consensus of Commentators has thus explained the passage. For we may fairly conclude the word "all" here is co-extensive with the scheme for man's redemption, when in the fulness of time the Law retired to make way for the Gospel, and Christ came into the world. It ought to be unnecessary to remind ourselves

* Our Lord had indeed declared that one jot or tittle, i.e. of the Law, should not pass away till all was fulfilled. But all was fulfilled when the Sceptre departed from Judah, and so the Jewish commonwealth was dissolved ; and when the types of the law had their full accomplishment in their great Antitype, our Prophet, Priest, and King.

† Dr. Littledales' little work, from which we quote further on, takes, as we conceive, the right view of the argument from the Mosaic Dispensation.