

early Patriarchs more especially, and often to the faithful Abraham, and afterwards more clearly and fully declared, through Moses, to those chosen though disobedient people, in the words in Deut., xviii.: "The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me, unto him ye shall hearken." All the divinely-proscribed ordinances, sacrifices, and offerings, under that literally strict legal dispensation, were designed to prefigure and symbolize that promised and gracious Messiah, in due time to be *personally* manifested on the earth, and his redeeming, atoning, and eternally saving work in behalf of our guilty and helpless race. He was, in substance and reality, the symbolized lamb and other slain animals, with their sprinkled blood, as well as the other and varied oblations and offerings for obtaining the forgiveness of sins, so constantly and multitudinously presented in the tabernacle and temple services. He, and his atoning, justifying and saving offering were represented by the blood of the one animal sprinkled on the altar and mercy seat, and by the other animal typically laden with the sins of the people, and bearing them away "into the wilderness, — a land not inhabited." By the enjoined washings and other purifications of the persons and vestments of the priests, and the various offerings and observances connected with their public services, the immaculate purity and the perfectly propitiating offering and sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ himself, as the one great and all-sufficient High Priest on behalf of universal humanity, were *representatively* and most aptly prefigured. By the hyssop branch, dipped in the blood of one bird and laved in the pure water of the running brook, and the sprinkling of both, in the cleansing of the leper, and by the release of the other bird to its perfect freedom, the Saviour's atoning and satisfying work for the redemption and the free and full salvation of our sinful and captive race were further representatively prefigured and exhibited. The fresh bread, daily laid on the consecrated table, symbolized the same divine Saviour as the bread of life, indispensably required as the daily food for sustaining the life of the regenerated spirit of man.

Through a long course of ages, during that typical dispensation, a line of inspired prophets recorded numerous and gracious predictions regarding that divine Messiah and Prophet, declaring