

some verses of Psalm xvi., St. Peter thus comments in his Pentecostal speech (Acts ii. 29), "Brethren, I may say unto you freely of the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us unto this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him . . . he, foreseeing this, spake of the resurrection of Christ." The expression here used, "being a prophet," is evidently explanatory. It was, says the Apostle, *because* he was a prophet that he foresaw the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. Is not this, however, equivalent to saying, a prophet is a person who may be expected to have such miraculous foresight?

Nor does he speak thus of David only. In a later speech (Acts iii. 18-29) he tells us, "But the things which God foreshewed by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ should suffer, He thus fulfilled. Repent ye therefore . . . that He may send the Christ . . . even Jesus, whom the heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, whereof God spake by the mouth of His holy prophets which have been since the world began." No doubt the application of this language may be confined *to the writers* of Old Testament prophecy; but such is not its natural force. It seems to be studiously general. Christ, in His sufferings or glory, was, we may understand, the theme of all prophets in all times. God spake by them, and foreshewed the fortunes of His Son through them.

So again is his first Epistle (1 Peter i. 10) we find all the same elements of the prophetic character. In spite of fiery trial, the elect sojourners to whom he writes were blessed, for they were happy in Him "Whom having not seen they loved," and in the assurance of their salvation. "Concerning which salvation the prophets sought and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what time or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did point unto, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that should follow them. To whom it was revealed that not unto themselves, but unto you did they minister these things." Of these