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What are these common sufferings ? From the nature of the case, we judge that there can be no allusion here to the extraordinary or atoning sufferings, which were laid on Christ alone.

And there is not. It is the ordinary and common "sufferings of this present time" of which the apostle speaks. The sufferings to which they are subject as men and as Christians speak not of self-imposed sufferings, but of those which Divine Providence appoints or permits others to inflict.—(See verse 18.)

These Jesus endured. "As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same." Heb. 2. 14. And the infirmities of such a body, rendered him, liable as we are, to every distressing excess of heat and cold, to all the pangs of hunger and to parching thirst, to all the agony of disease and the torture of persecution. He did not shield himself from these, by assuming worldly rank, or using divine power.

All who are in flesh and blood are liable to endure these sufferings. But, observe, while all pass through them with the same bodily sensations, they do not go through them with the same inward spirit. All who have the same state of body have not the same state of soul. And hence sufferings that produce the same sensations in the one, may produce very different emotions in the other. Some persons give way to all impatience and murmuring in afflictions, in which others are strengthened to all patience and joyfulness.

Jesus as "the holy one of God" manifested the right spirit. "Though he were," as Trench remarks, it ought to be "though he was a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered."—Heb. 5, 8. It would seem that these statements of the inspired writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews, refer, in some sense, to the whole of Christ's "days in the flesh ;" but yet have a particular illustrative reference to some one scene. For this latter some look to the Garden of Gethsemane. But the death referred to cannot be witnessed there. It cannot be either his atoning death, or his death as a martyr ; because he was

The sufferings referred to are not the atoning sufferings, but the sufferings of the present time.

The son of God, and the children of God, subject to these.

All men feel these but do not endure them with the same spirit.

Jesus left us an example of the right spirit.