

contrary to the law?" A remark for which he promptly apologised. The heart of the church universal responds to the comparison that here, as always, the Son of Man is immeasurably superior even to his greatest servant. Before the Sanhedrim, before Herod, and from the soldiers of Pilate, Christ endured the most cruel mocking and abuse without a word of protest, and the crowning injustice of the scourge and the cross called forth not even a complaint.

Notwithstanding, He never questions His own ability to defend Himself. On the contrary the soldiers' ignominious fall when first they confronted Him and His own statement that twelve legions of angels were at His command if their employment were consistent with His purposes, all show the extent of his power. Yet all through his life He meekly suffered indignity and injury, and never struck a blow nor allowed one to be struck in His own defence.

On the other hand, He never recklessly exposed Himself to evil. More than once He kept out of the way of danger. When the Nazarenes tried to throw Him over the cliff, and when the Jews tried to stone Him, He passed through the midst of them, and went away.

When arraigned before Caiaphas, He demanded proof for the alleged heresy of His doctrines. When tried before Pilate He defended Himself by shewing the baselessness of the charges against Him. He was silent only when defence was useless, and when He knew that their minds were sealed against truth and right. This certainly looks like self-defence by legal means.

Still more light is thrown on this subject by Christ's aggressive policy toward error. When He cleansed the temple on two occasions He shewed an anger approaching to violence against the authorities who profitted by and the traders who engaged in the practises which made His Father's House a den of thieves. When encountered in controversy, He signally defeated His opponents at every turn. When they sought to put Him on the horns of a dilemma, as in the case of giving tribute to Caesar, He adroitly turned the difficulty back on themselves. Insincere triflers He covered with