hope of reward either here or hereafter. But these are not the considerations on which He mainly relies. Not infrequently does He warn His followers that they are to expect persecution and tribulation as the consequence of their fidelity. Bacon expressed a profound truth, though in a somewhat epigrammatic and exaggerated way, when he said that "prosperity is the blessing of the Old Testament, and adversity of the New." Of course neither He nor His Apostles forgot that these persecutions and trials would have their compensations in due time. But their main reliance was on the inspiration of His example and the constraining power of His love. It was the doctrine of the cross that gave power to the new faith and nerved its adherents to heroic endeavour, which still continues to do so after the lapse of so many centuries and must do so to the end, if its ethical teaching is to prevail throughout the world.

Strictly speaking this last feature of Christian teaching is not wholly new, for even the appeal of the decalogue was based on the gratitude due to Jehovah for delivering His people from Egyptian bondage. But it came with a wholly new force to the individual sinner who, in his own person and not simply in that of his ancestors, had found redemption from a worse bondage than that of Egypt and without which all his own efforts after salvation must ever prove vain. Advancing time so far from weakening its force rather increases it by proving the insufficiency of everything else to give release.

It may be said this is hardly an element in the ethical teaching of Christianity—as it does not affect its standard of duty. Even that is only partially true, because the example of Christ is ofttimes the clearest interpretation of the meaning of His principles. But even supposing it were wholly true it could not be overlooked in any consideration of the ethical development of Christianity, for without that Christianity would have had no development at all, since without that it would have had no life or growth whatever. It will have to be assumed in all the discussion which follows.