

him hateful, as having his mission from the prince of darkness ; nor did their envy cease till they took him like a criminal and brought him to trial. Though some may affect to carry the appearance of being unmoved at the apprehension of distress, our dear Redeemer, who was perfectly sincere, having the same human nature which we have, and feeling, a little before he was apprehended, the weight of that work upon him, for which he came into the world, was “ sorrowful even unto death ;” here the human nature struggled to be excused from a cup so bitter ; but his prayers centered in resignation, “ Not my will but thine be done.” In this conflict, so great was his agony that “ sweat like drops of blood fell from him to the ground.”

Behold now as foretold by the prophet, he is in a judicial manner “ numbered with the transgressors.” Behold him as some poor man of no reputation, standing before the high priest and elders, and before Herod and Pilate, where witnesses appear against him, and he mindful of the most gracious design of his coming, declineth to plead in his own defence, “ but as a sheep that is dumb before his shearer,” so under many accusations, revilings, and buffetings, remained silent. And tho’ he signified to Peter that he had access to power sufficient to overthrow all their outward forces ; yet retaining a resignation to suffer for the sins of mankind, he exerted not that power, but permitted them
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