

ment, and say, "I cannot do so and so; then why need I wish to do it?"

It may be that the one who arranged that pillow (if such were the case) was gladdened afterwards to find that He had fallen asleep upon it. In any case, He accepted it then—yes; used it fully for Himself. It may be, too, that there was no one of all His disciples whose heart was open to give Him "the tribute money." If there had been one, He might have allowed that one to do it unto Him; but a *fish* must be the giver. Doubtless, if there had been one *at the moment* who would have longed to give Him the money, He would have sent Peter to such an one, and not to a fish. He displayed His lordship over creation in the act, of course; but would He not rather have had the need filled up from some loving heart which was looking for an opening to help? Could it be possible that at that particular moment not one on earth was longing to aid the Man of Sorrows? I say, "*at that moment*;" for it is not enough that life from God must be present in him who acts for Jesus; he must *also* be in a moral state of soul, in communion with God, ere Jesus will *ask* for his aid. The ravens fed Elijah. But if there is even a Sidonian widow, with nothing save a little oil and a handful of meal, she will have the blessedness of helping the servant of the Lord.

The Lord loves us to give to Him, but "a cheerful giver" is the one He wants. When He wanted the ass for His entry into Jerusalem, He knew well