

A strong man is ever a man with a mission and loyal to it. Saul of Tarsus was an inquisitor up to the hour when the great light shone upon him. Knowing that his occupation was gone, as one who could not live without a definite work, he straightway inquired of his new Master, "What wilt thou have me to do?" All servants of Christ are appointed to special tasks. Alas for the Christian who gives to the sordid world the energies which should be consecrated to God. He lives like an eagle tethered to its stake; its wings drooping, its eyes blinking at the sun. O Christian, find thy work and perform it. Thou dost serve a great and worthy Master.

Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John iii. 3. How is a man to get this new birth? Upon what ground is he to get that which would entitle him to a place in the scene of blessedness, where sin and Satan are not? The Lord says, "The Son of Man must be lifted up." Life and salvation can be ours only on the ground of the death—the substitutionary death—of the Lord Jesus Christ. Nothing short of this would do for God, and nothing less than this could meet our need as sinners, or be the ground of our getting life eternal. "The Son of Man must be lifted up, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The very things that scare and stumble the coward heart afford an occasion for the display of God's

power, and the magnificent triumphs of faith. Faith says, "Grant me but this, that God is before me and with me, and I can go anywhere." Thus the only thing in all this world that really glorifies God is the faith that can trust Him and use Him and praise Him; and inasmuch as faith is the only thing that glorifies God, so it is the only thing that gives man his proper place, even the place of complete dependence upon God, and this ensures victory and inspires praise—unceasing praise.—C. H. M.

Two things are linked together by a divine and everlasting bond. God has so ordained that His full glory and the creature's full blessing should be indissolubly bound up together. This is deep joy to the heart, and it helps us to understand, more fully, the force and beauty of that familiar Scripture, "We rejoice in hope of the glory of God." When that glory shines forth in its full lustre, then, assuredly, human blessedness, rest, and felicity, shall reach their full and eternal consummation.—C. H. M.

There is not a single difficulty in the entire path of any individual believer, from beginning to end, which has not been perfectly provided for in the Bible. We have all we want in that blessed volume; hence we should be seeking to make ourselves more and more acquainted with it.

I have been very happy during my illness: it has made me feel much more than ever that heaven and the bosom of God is my rest, my home, seeing I shall be with Him for ever.—J. N. D.