

and overcome. Thus, when Peter (ready to sink as he tried to walk on the water) stretched out his arms to Jesus, saying "Lord, save me,"—or when the two blind men said to Him "Lord, that our eyes may be opened,"—or the woman of Canaan, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, my daughter is grievously vexed of a devil,"—or Martha and Mary, "Lord, he whom Thou lovest is sick,"—all these were prayers for special grace. Each one asked for the exact blessing he needed.

So must we, trying to find out our dangers and temptations, pray for grace suited to our particular characters, temptations and sins, and to the doing of those particular works which it is our duty to do. The Christian youth who is really trying to grow in grace,—who 'sets the Lord always before him', endeavouring to walk with God,—will pray thus instinctively. Many a time with bitter grief and tears will the soul be poured out in confession before the Saviour, and many a time, as a new work is undertaken, or a new project is under consideration, will God's counsel and direction be earnestly asked. This is the way to walk with God, and to 'live by faith, not by sight'.

And this leads me to speak of another kind of prayer, which may even more properly be called prayer for special grace—I mean ejaculatory prayer. An ejaculatory prayer is a brief petition suddenly and earnestly sent up to God, as one is walking, or sitting, or standing, or otherwise engaged, for some special help in some special danger or difficulty. An instance of it, and a beautiful one, occurs in the history of Nehemiah.