

"Pray as thou wilt, friend," said Simon, rising, "and I will pray, even as did David, for the destruction of mine enemies. The Lord heard him and gave him his desire upon them that sought his hurt, as thou mayst read in the Psalms. Farewell ; Jehovah keep thee and thine."

Ananias seemed hardly to have heard the parting words of his guest ; he also had risen and was walking slowly up and down. His heart had grown heavy within him, and it was heavier still as he saw his wife approaching from the adjoining roof-terrace.

"Our son sleeps, my lord," she said, with a low laugh of content. "Thou shouldst have heard him pray to the ascended One ; he repeated the prayer that thou didst teach him, and afterward, ' Good Jesus, let not the wind from the desert blow to-morrow. Amen.' I could not chide him, and to-morrow the wind will continue to set from Lebanon, thou wilt see ; for I believe that the Ascended heeds the little ones whom he so loved when he was on earth."

"Teach him, then, to pray that our faith be not shaken," said Ananias with a sigh.

"Assuredly, that is a good thing to ask. But what said our friend Simon of his journey ? And why hath he made such haste to be gone ? I would fain have heard of the wondrous sights he beheld in Jerusalem."

"He brought tidings of evil, heart of mine. • The brethren which dwell at Jerusalem are suffering many things at the hand of them which believe not, scourging, imprisonment, and even death."