

## SALVATION.

Reader! you may be clothed in purple and fine linen, and fare sumptuously every day, as Dives did, and not be saved. You may rule vast provinces, and command vast armies, as Pharaoh and Nebuchadnezzar did, and not be saved. You may be fair and lovely to behold, as Absalom was, and not be saved. You may belong to a Church, pure and simple and apostolic, and blessed with holy ordinances, as Ananias and Sapphira did, and not be saved. You may live under the highest blaze of Gospel teaching, as Judas did—nay, you may bear witness to the truths of Jesus as he did, and not be saved. You may be exalted unto heaven in privileges and opportunities as Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum were, and not be saved. You may have the shrewdest intellect as Ahithophel had, and not be saved. But you cannot believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and fail of salvation. The word abides for ever: "Whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." Let the rich man believe, and he is saved. Let the poor man believe, and he is saved. Let the young believe—let the old believe—let the wise believe, and all are safe. Christ is theirs, and Christ is Salvation.—*Miss, News.*

## "IF I WERE A GIRL"

"If I were a girl," said a well-known New England clergyman recently, "I wouldn't parade too much in public places." He mentioned a number of other things that he would not do. He would not think too much about dress, or about parties, or about fashionable society. But in regard to the folly of parading in public places he was particularly emphatic. A good many girls, acquire the habit of parading the streets before they comprehend how objectionable it is. Their motive at first is simply amusement; afterwards they like thus to draw upon themselves the notice of others. But notice so attracted is seldom respectful, and the very young man who will look admiringly at the girls he meets under such circumstances will probably rejoice in his own heart that his sister is not among them. There is too much of this sort of thing in many of our smaller towns and villages, and we are glad that the practice has been publicly denounced from the pulpit.—*N. Y. Ledger,*

## THE MOST ALARMING SINS.

If I were called to point out the most alarming sins to-day, those which armost deceitful in their influence, and most soul destroying in their ultimate effects—I would not mention drunkenness with all its fearful havoc, nor gambling with its crazed victims, nor harlotry with its hellish orgies; but the love of money on the part of men, and the love of display on the part of women. While open vice sends its thousands, these fashionable and favoured indulgences send their ten thousands to perdition. They sear the conscience, incrust the soul with an impenetrable shell of worldliness, debauch the affections from every high and heavenly object, and make man or woman the worshipper of self. While doing all this, the poor victim is allowed by public opinion to think himself or herself a Christian; while the drunkard, the gambler, or the prostitute, is not deceived by such a thought for a moment.—*Dr. Crosby.*

## WHAT SIN WILL DO.

There was but one crack in the lantern, and the wind has found it out and blown out the candle. How great a mischief one unguarded point of character may cause us! One spark blew up the magazine and shook the whole country for miles around. One leak sank the vessel and drowned all on board. One wound may kill the body.

One sin destroys the soul.

It matters little how carefully the rest of the lantern is protected, the one point which is damaged is quite sufficient to admit the wind, and so it little matters how zealous a man may be in a thousand things if he tolerates one darling sin; Satan will find out the flaw and destroy all of his hopes. The strength of a chain is to be measured not by the strongest, but by its weakest links, for if the weakest snaps what is the use of the rest? Satan is a close observer, and knows exactly where our weak points are; we have need of very much watchfulness, and we have great cause to bless our merciful Lord who prayed for us that our faith fail not. Either our pride or our sloth, our ignorance, our anger or our lust would prove our ruin unless grace interposed; any one of our senses or faculties might admit the foe; yea, our virtues and graces might be the gates of entrance to our enemies. O, Jesus, if Thou hast indeed bought me with thy blood, be pleased to keep me by Thy power even unto the end.—*Spurgeon.*