

IN A MOMENT.

THE anxious look betrayed the state of one who had been a professing Christian for over twenty years. She stated that she had done everything; had been watchful over her ways; prayed regularly; and faithfully fulfilled her religious duties all this time; yet, was conscious of a great lack; was not fit to die, and too miserable to live. Poor thing, like hosts of others, she was occupied with herself and her own doings, seeking to satisfy God, but had not even "satisfied herself." She was, she said, groping after light, and longing to meet a Christian that could help her, and was about ready to admit that "we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags" (Is. lxiv, 6).

She was referred to Rom. ix, 30-33; x, 1-13, where it is stated that the Jews before her had made the *same mistake* in seeking righteousness by works of the law, while the Gentiles found the righteousness of God *by faith*. They, like her, had religious zeal, but like her, too, "not according to knowledge." She had been earnestly seeking to establish a righteousness for God but had failed like His people of old, "For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God." It was a question of faith, not of works,

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