

'*Kill that devil!* That is what we all desire to do ; but how ? He has more lives than the cat, and more heads than the hydra !

"When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out ; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished."

'It is a true picture of the soul of many a Bhikkhu, who has honestly striven to cleanse himself. If you study the *Patimokkha* you will find how awful were the temptations of these men, even in the days of enthusiasm.'

'Finish the parable. It is somehow familiar to me.'

'It is a parable of Jesus, that Master of them who know. "Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there ; and the last state of that man is worse than the first."

'It is a terrible story ! What is the alternative ? If a man cannot himself kill the Demon of Self, to whom shall he look ?'

'Well, as you know, I am a Paramat and not a Christian ; but I believe the Christians are right. If there be a God, must He not be such as their Christ ? And He had unlimited power over devils ; even the devil of self seems to have been obedient to Him.

'I heard somewhere words which have haunted me : "If self is on the throne ruling, Christ is on the Cross dying. If Christ is on the throne ruling, self is on the Cross dying."'

'Explain.'

'I can only tell you what our Philosophy Professor told me ; Christ knew the great truth that one passion can only be cast out by another ! So He made devotion to Himself