

## CHAPTER V

### THE NEW MAN

#### I.—THE GOSPEL OF "BENEFITS"

**T**HE Christian is one who is converted and committed to the Kingdom of God, which is at once a social vision and a way of life. He accepts a certain scale of values and a particular view of the ends of life. But the appointed aim of the gospel has been confused and foiled by a persistent acknowledgment in practice of a dual scale of values. This is to be traced, like the salvationist emphasis to which it is related, to the power of our egoism to twist to its own purposes the very Gospel that was given to deliver us from it.

A woman once came to me at a mothers' meeting and expressed a desire to join. I told her she was indeed welcome. Then she asked, "What are the benefits"? I knew she meant blankets, coal tickets, Christmas dinners, and the like; and I told her that there were no benefits. Like the rich young noble she went away sorrowful, even indeed a little indignant that she had had so much trouble for nothing. But that woman was typical of all of us; that is the chronic question—"What are the benefits?" What are we going to get out of it? How shall we make the best of both worlds?

Some for the glories of this world; and some  
Sigh for the Prophet's Paradise to come.

But most people want both. Here, we say, is one world, the physical and temporal, with its own