

the very opposite at night when he took the service in the next parish!

As George said this, he puffed vigorously at his short pipe, gave a tug at the basket he was carrying over his shoulders, and put down his feet as if he were vexed. Peter looked at him with a little twinkle in his eye, and said :

Well, and what did you think of it?

George : Think of it? — Why, I thought that parson told a lie either morning, or afternoon, and tried to make God a liar too! Never went to hear him again! It's too bad of them, — trying to deceive us poor folks! There is the high church, and the low church; the broad church, and the narrow, vangelical church, and ever so many more of them, besides the Wesleyans, and Baptists, and lots of others. And it is not in little things only that they differ. Some say that you will be damned if you *don't* do this; and some say that you will be damned if you *do* do it. I want to save my soul, and get to heaven, but how *can* I do it, when these'versity men contradict each other, and send us all different ways?

Peter : You can do it, George, easily enough, if you like. God did not mean only the rich and the learned to be saved, but the poor and ignorant as well.

George : Easy to be done, is it? Then just tell me how!

Peter : Read the Bible, and use your common sense.

George : That's just what I *have* done. And all those blessed parsons too; they read the Bible, and just see how they contradict one another!

Peter : Ah, George! You only do half of what I recommend you. You don't use your common sense. Doesn't St. Peter tell us that in the letters of St. Paul *there are certain things hard to be understood, which the unlearned and the unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, to their own destruction?** Our blessed Lord did not teach in English, nor did the Apostles write in English. What do you know of Latin or Greek, or Hebrew? Or, how do you know that you have got a true translation of what they said or wrote?

* St. Peter ii. 16.