

and prayed was more than he could afford ; so Satan suggested, and the good man yielded. His pious wife saw with grief that the family altar was neglected, and her husband, in his haste to get rich, was departing from God. She talked with him, she pleaded with him, but in vain. At last she determined to try another experiment.

The next morning the farmer and his men went out, as usual, to their work. The sun began to climb up the sky, but no breakfast horn was heard. They grew hungry, and looked anxiously toward the house ; they listened, but the expected summons did not come. After waiting an hour they went into the house. No table was set, no coffee was boiling on the fire, no cook over or before it. The good wife was knitting quietly, with the Bible on her lap.

"What does this mean?" cried the husband. "Why isn't our breakfast ready?"

"I thought you were in such a hurry about your work that you hadn't time to eat.

"Haven't time to eat! Do you think we can live without eating?"

"You can live without eating as well as you can live without praying. The spirit needs the bread of heaven as much as the body needs the bread of earth."

"Well, well," said the farmer, "get us some breakfast, and we will have prayers every morning, no matter how busy we are, nor how many workmen I have."

She got the breakfast and he kept his word. The lesson was a good one, and never forgotten.—*Selected.*

It is told of Bishop Aylmer that when he observed his congregation inattentive, he would repeat some verses of the Hebrew Bible, at which the people naturally stared in astonishment. He then addressed them on the folly of listening to what they did not understand, while they neglected instruction which they readily comprehended.

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