

stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word "

Who Paid for the Little Cake.

(1.) God. So he could afford to pay a large price. That poor widow was well paid. She and her son did eat many days. She might have refused to help the prophet, and then she would have eaten the little cake, and the meal tub would have been empty, and they must have pined away. Cannot you fancy her making the cake, after she had scraped out the barrel, and then taking it to the man of God, and hurrying back to look into the meal-tub, and lo ! there was still a handful of meal, enough for another cake ! So day by day they were fed. God gives large interest for money lent to him.

(2.) It was God who paid for the little cake, so there was no fear of pay stopping. Very likely for the first few days the good woman would fear that some time or other she would go to the meal-tub and find it empty, but it never was. The people who lived about would wonder to see them so comfortable, and perhaps would ask the little boy how his mother did to feed him so well. But all his answer could be : We have only a handful, but there is always a handful. It may be that there are some boys and girls who don't know how they are to be fed next winter. Perhaps you may come to the last crust, but while there is a God in Heaven and your heart can trust Him, there will be a bit to eat. "Mother," said a poor lad, "I do believe God hears me scrape the flour barrel, for whenever it is quite empty somebody sends us some potatoes."

Jesus comes to you just as Elijah came to the poor widow. You know what the prophet wanted. he wanted her all. "Give me all that thou hast, and I will give thee all I have." Jesus says something of the same kind : "Give me thy heart, give me thy love, and I will give thee mine. Only love me with thy powers, and I will love thee now and forever." Don't give your handful of meal to any one but Jesus. The world will like to have it, Satan will like to have it ; but what will they give you in return ? You cannot take any one else into your heart who has so much right to be there, nor can you find any one else who will do so well for you as he will.

Faith is spiritual eyesight. You all see this room, the scholars, teachers, &c., you know they are there. But some present know more than that,—know God is here looking at each heart, Christ is here calling you to come, God's Spirit is here to teach your souls. They know this because they have faith.