

see that it is right. Beside, the Scriptures say, "Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

S. I have no doubt that prayer is right, for I can recollect of reading of prayer in the Scriptures; but, not knowing where to find these passages, and especially where persons seeking the salvation of their souls were commanded to pray, or be prayed for, I desire you to turn down a leaf at a few places. Is the passage you quoted, "Blessed are they who mourn," etc., speaking of conversion?

H. I cannot say it is; but, as you are what we call a "mourner," I thought the language applicable in your case. As to prayer, the Apostle says, "I will, therefore, that men pray everywhere."

S. If that passage speaks of conversion, and is intended for men in my condition, I desire you to mark it here in my Bible. Was it addressed to persons seeking the Lord as I am, or Christians? I am desirous to have the Scripture that relates to my condition.

H. You, my dear young friend, are a *seeker*, and the Lord says, "I will be sought unto by prayer." Beside, you are a *mourner*, in anguish on account of sin. It is right, therefore, that you should seek the Lord in prayer.

S. No doubt you are correct. I have the utmost confidence that you will give me the proper instructions. I have heard of great numbers being converted in old times, but do not know where in the Bible to find the account of these cases. Will you, therefore, refer me to some place where the people came to the "mourner's bench," or the "altar of prayer," to pray and be prayed for? I desire to be certain that I am going according to Scripture.

H. My dear sir, how can you have doubts about prayer, when it is commanded in so many places in Scripture?

S. I have no doubt about it, but I simply desire you to point out some of those places where we read of such great numbers being converted, that I may read for myself where such great numbers were commanded to come to the mourner's bench, or the altar of prayer, to pray and be prayed for. I desire to read these passages, because there are several things about it that I do not understand.

H. Perhaps you are unwilling to take my word!

S. Certainly, my dear sir, I am willing to take your word. If you tell me where I can find these passages, I have no doubt I shall find them as you say.