

story—you desire he would accept your offering of yourself, but you do not believe he does so, although you hear him saying, "Him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out." You are perhaps waiting for some great and marvellous light to shine in on your soul; you will not accept his simple word that he *does* receive you, and so begin at once a life of devotion to him.

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### PRAYER AND ACTION.

When Havelock was marching to the relief of the besieged and starving garrison at Lucknow, while he kept up a soldier's discipline in the camp, he maintained a rigid Christian discipline over his own heart. But neither was made an excuse for neglecting the other. Both were made to work in harmony. Feeling ever his dependence upon God for wisdom, strength, courage, and success, he always began with prayer, rising two hours before the time set for marching, that he might have an uninterrupted season for devotion. But when the appointed moment for the march arrived, he was on his horse, inspiring his troops with the word of command. Had Havelock halted to spend days in fasting and prayer for the relief of Lucknow, imploring Jehovah to interpose by a miracle, and affright the enemy as of old he terrified the Assyrian camp, the forlorn garrison, wasted by famine and death, would have fallen an easy prey to the rebels. Plain Christian sense would have repudiated such devotion as a false enthusiasm, and the Government would have court-martialed Havelock for cowardice. But when he had refreshed and strengthened his own soul by communion with God, Havelock proved the sincerity of his faith by putting himself at the head of his regiments, and commanding them to go forward. Braving heat and miasma, and the risk of surprise and treachery, and the danger of being surrounded and cut off in a hostile land, he pressed on to rescue his countrymen. Faith led him to wait on God in all humility and hope, and faith led him to march with all speed and courage. Yes, brave Christian soldier, save Lucknow by prayer if thou canst; but by all means save it by forced marches, for which thy prayers will strengthen thee! When the march was ordered for four in the morning, Havelock would rise at two to pray. But when the time for preparation drew nigh, he seemed to hear a voice within saying, "Wherefore criest thou unto me? Speak to the army that it go forward;" and it went forward into victory, though he who led the march and won the victory of faith, gained also the higher victory of death.