

own love which provided that sacrifice on purpose for us to trust in, and be at rest. You are guilty, but Jesus has atoned for your guilt; you deserve hell, but Jesus has endured hell and deserved glory for you. The ship in which you started is wrecked, and you are sinking in it, but Jesus approaches, and offers to rescue you. If you embrace him as your own, if you yield yourself to him, if you ask peace with God for "his name's sake," never doubt but that your sins are forgiven—that all which has caused you fear, trouble, or shame, is blotted out as effectually as if you had not done it. The Hindu crawled for fifty miles in the burning sun across a dusty plain, imploring his gods to accept it for his crimes; when the missionary spoke to him of Jesus' finished work, he burst into tears, and clapping his hands, exclaimed, "Then though I have crawled these fifty miles in vain, I have crawled to the true fountain at last. I might have reached it without crawling an inch, but I would crawl another fifty miles once a month to have heard of this true fountain."

It may be a trifle to you now, whether or not your sins are forgiven; but it is the most important matter in your whole existence, and I beseech you to attend to it while you can. You should realize that until you are forgiven, you are hanging by a thread over a precipice, or fastened by the devil in a dungeon, from which none but Jesus can deliver you. Now, he is knocking at the door, and saying to you, "Shall I do it? Will you resign your case to me? Will you follow me and be mine?" Oh, speedily may we see you led forth by him unfettered, and hear you whispering to yourself with joyful lips, "FORGIVEN! FORGIVEN!"

A COWARD.

"A coward, Tom! That's what *you* are! Why don't you strike him, and not walk away so, and let him call you names? Catch me to take it so quietly? I would let him know who he had to fight. Oh, you are a coward!"

"Was Jesus Christ, our Saviour, a coward, Jack? And what did he do when he was scourged, and struck in the face and even spit upon? Did he strike back? Or when he was reviled, did he do the same? No! we are told that he answered not a word; but when on the cross, in suffering and agony, he prayed God to forgive them. Shall we not try and follow his example? I intend to try as far as I can to be like Jesus, meek and gentle, and forbearing and forgiving. I have not done anything to offend Will, only refused to play truant with him, and advised him to go to school too, when he struck me, and because I did not strike back, he called me names."

What effect, do you think, my little reader, this good boy's conduct and words had upon the other two? I will tell you. Will walked up to Tom, and told him that he was sorry that he had struck, and that he would go to school with him. Jack joined them, and said he had never thought before that Jesus had set an example not to fight; and that he would remember it, and also the good effect of his young companion's words and conduct which had explained it to them; and that he would read his Bible more. Who knows how much more good this may do him?