

sand, the distance from one idol temple to another, often covering many miles.

Missionary Leipoldt tells of a Fakir who buried himself up to the neck in the earth so that the worms had begun to devour him. The King of Benares came to the place and begged him not to torment himself so much. And the saint said in his anger: "I curse you!" And when the king in turn begged him to withdraw the curse, he promised to do so on condition that he would have a wooden bed made for him with projecting nails in the bottom. The king complied with his wish and the saint stretched himself upon the sharp pointed nails and spent the last fourteen years of his life in that position.

VOICE OF THE FORERUNNER ON TUTUILA.

ISA. 60 : 9—"Surely the isles shall wait for me."

Upon the return of the missionary Williams from England to the South Sea Islands, when a great assembly was held and short addresses made by the natives. An old chief rose up and told, how, many years before, a chief in the neighboring village had prophesied that the worship of spirits would come to an end in Samoa, a great white chief would come from the distant horizon; he would overthrow their religion and all this would happen soon after his death. "That old man," he added, "died shortly before the coming of the Lotu (Gospel) to our country," and pointing to Williams who sat in the midst of the assembly, he exclaimed with emphatic tones: "Behold—the prophecy is fulfilled! He is the great white chieftain who has come over from beyond the distant horizon: this is the man who has overthrown the worship of spirits."

ART THOU HE THAT SHOULD COME.

MATT. 11 : 3—"Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?"

A young Siamese, who was in the habit of discussing questions pertaining to Christianity with the missionaries, Tonklin and Gutzlaff, related to them the following: In his neighborhood, near Bangkok, lived a wise old man nearly eighty years old, who, sometime previous, had told his neighbors that within six years the Saviour or Redeemer of his nation should come. At present, while their sins still burdened them, there was no rest for them. When he heard of the arrival of the missionaries at Bangkok, he said: "These are the forerunners of him who is to come." Hence the missionaries understood the inquiry put to them by many Siamese: "Has Jesus come hither?"

Receiving Christ.

"How is it with you now, M.; have you made any progress Christ-ward since I saw you?"

"I can't say that I have. It's just about the same; and I don't see what I am to do to make it different. I have done everything I know how to do; and if I had my life to live over again, I don't see how I could live differently."

"Do you pray daily and study the Bible?"

"Yes; but I don't see that it does any good."

"When you pray, do you realize God's presence, and his interest in you?"

"No; I can't say I do. I don't see how he can feel any interest in me. I have lived a mere selfish life, and haven't deserved his love, and don't see how I can expect it."

"Do you desire it?"

"O yes; I should like very much to have it, if I could."

"Well, if that be really so, and if you will just tell Him so, and ask him what he would have you to do to win it, that will be real prayer, and one that he will be likely to answer."

"But it don't seem to me as if it would accomplish anything, or make any change in my future life. I can't feel sure that I shall do anything better in the future."

"One thing at a time, my dear friend; if you desire God's love—really desire it—you can have it; if it be the one absorbing desire of your heart."

"But it don't seem so to me. It don't seem to me that he can see anything in me to love."

"You have but too much reason to say it; but fortunately what cannot be found in you, is found in Christ; he has bought you all with his blood; and now offers to dwell with you and in you. If you receive Jesus, all will go well with you; for it is written, 'As many as received him, to them he gave power to become the sons of God.' You want power to become a child; receive Christ, and he will give you the power."

"But if I tell him that I do receive him, I shan't feel any differently; I shan't act any differently."

"In short, you don't believe that there is any efficacy in obedience; that God values it or will reward it; and all your unbelief has no better ground than that it don't seem to you that it would do any good. What right have you thus to reject the plain testimony of God? You have never put him to the proof. You have never received Christ, though he has long knocked for admittance. You have never entrusted the keeping of yourself to him. Thousands of times, his gentle and winning entreaty, 'Come unto me,' has been repeated in your hearing, but you have never come. You reject all evi-