

kept them poor : others with greater knowledge became rich.

A knowledge of *man* enables its possessor to make use of men to accomplish his purposes. Knowledge also serves as a safeguard against deception, imposition, mistakes, and many evils. But there is no knowledge which is so potent for good, and has such adaptations and capabilities as the knowledge of God. "This is life eternal, that they know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent." The angel declared to the prophet Daniel that "the people who do *know their God* shall be strong and do exploits." It is not enough to know there is a God, nor to know Him as a God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob ; but the people who do know *their God*, the living God, a present, mighty, eternal helper, "shall be strong and do exploits."

There is many a man who is weak, feeble and helpless, whose great need is to know God. If he had this knowledge his arm would have new strength, and his heart would feel new courage. If he had this knowledge, no fears could dismay him, no doubts disturb him. What wonders have been wrought by men who knew their God ; what exploits have been performed, what victories have been achieved, what triumphs over sin and evil, over darkness and despair.

Let us seek the knowledge of God, and pray that we may know Him, and that, robed in His righteousness and his strength, endowed with His power from on high, we may stand

among those "people who do know their God," and like them "be strong and do exploits."

### The Neglected Letter.

The importance of present hours and present opportunities is often but little felt. "To-morrow shall be as this day, and more abundant," is the fond dream of the idle, the indifferent, and the pleasure-seeking soul. But how often sad surprises break in upon our mirth and ease, and blast our cherished hopes.

Many years ago, a Greek nobleman made a feast for his friends. In the midst of the festivities, a messenger entered in great haste with a letter. It was from a distance, and was sent to inform him that a plot had been formed by his enemies to *kill him that night*.

"My Lord," said the messenger, "my master desired me to say, that you must *read the letter without delay* ; for it is about serious things."

"Serious things to-morrow," said the nobleman, as he threw the letter aside, and took up his cup of wine. The delay was fatal. Before the feast was at an end, his enemies rushed into the hall and slew him.

He neglected his last chance, and perished through his own folly. And are there not thousands who to-day are neglecting opportunities and disregarding warnings, who will mourn at last, when they are lost beyond remedy? To-day God sends His message to us. Oh, *read the letter to-day*, for "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?"