

### What do I Most Want.

Some years since, a Sunday-school teacher, in the south of London, spoke to the children on the importance of prayer. He told them that Jesus Christ was always glad to hear the prayers of Sabbath-school children, if offered by faith.

One little boy, about seven years of age, paid great attention to the address of his teacher, and when he went home, he told his mother what he had heard, and asked her to teach him how to pray, but she could not; so he resolved to try and make a prayer of his own, and before retiring to rest that Sunday night, he fell upon his knees, and offered the following short, simple, beautiful prayer; "O Lord, I should be very much obliged to you, if you would give me a new heart." Jesus Christ gave him a new heart; for he has said, "I love them that love me, and those that seek me early shall find me."

A little girl in the same Sunday-school retired to her home, and determined that she would begin to pray. She considered what she most wanted, and, looking at her dress, thought she most wanted a new frock and a new bonnet. She therefore knelt down, and prayed that God would enable her to find a sovereign to purchase what she most needed. Believing that her prayer would be answered, she went out and walked about the streets, diligently seeking the gold coin. After seeking for some time, she remembered that her teacher had stated one thing was needful, and that was a new heart. She immediately ran home, and in secret entreated the Lord to give her a new heart. And she was not disappointed, for God has said, "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh."

Let me entreat you, my dear young friends, to ask yourselves this important question, What do I most want? and may you all seek by faith for a new heart?—(*London Juv. Miss. Record.*)

### A Rich Poor Man.

One windy afternoon, I went with a friend into a country almshouse. There was sitting before a feeble fire a very aged man, who was deaf, and so shaken with the palsy, that one wooden shoe constantly pattered against the ground. But deaf, sick, and helpless, it turned out that he was happy. "What are you doing, Wisby?" said my friend. "Waiting sir." "And for what?" "For the appearing of my Lord." "And what makes you wish for his appearing?" "Because sir, I expect great things then. He has promised a crown of righteousness to all that love his appearing." And to see whether it was a right foundation on which he rested that glorious hope, we asked old Wisby what it was. By degrees he got on his spectacles and opening the great Bible beside him pointed to the text, "Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ; of whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope and the glory of God."—Though you possess untold wealth if you have not old Wisby's faith you are a poor man; if you have that faith and are "rich towards God," count it all joy if you are as poor as Lazarus or Wisby in worldly goods. Your inheritance is as sure as God's promise, and as glorious as a throne or crown can make it. Better have Wisby's hope than Victoria's sceptre, Lazarus' rags than Dives' purple.—Better is poverty with piety, than riches with perdition.—*Herber.*

EXCELLENCIES OF KNOWLEDGE.—There are in knowledge these two excellencies: first, that it offers to every man, the most selfish and exalted, his peculiar inducement to good. It says to the former: 'Serve mankind, and you serve yourself; to the latter; In choosing the best means to secure your own happiness, you will have the sublime inducement of promoting the happiness of mankind.' The second excellence of knowledge is, that even the selfish man, when he has once begun to love virtue from little motives, loses the motive as he increases the love, and at last worships the Deity, where before he only coveted gold upon its altar.—*Bulwer.*