

MORE THAN A HOPE.

MARTIN LUTHER, in one of his conflicts with the devil, was asked by the arch-enemy if he FELT his sins forgiven. "No," said the great reformer, "I DON'T FEEL THAT THEY ARE FORGIVEN, but I KNOW they are, because God says so in His word." Paul did not say, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt FEEL saved;" but, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou SHALT BE SAVED." No one can FEEL that his sins are forgiven. Ask that man whose debt was paid by his brother, "Do you FEEL that your debt is paid?" "No," is the reply, "I don't FEEL that it is paid; I KNOW FROM THIS RECEIPT that it is paid, and I FEEL HAPPY because I know it is paid." So with you, dear reader. You must first believe in God's love to you as revealed at the cross of Calvary, and then you will FEEL PAPPY, because you will KNOW that you are saved.

And now let me ask you, in all love and earnestness, Is your soul safe for eternity? Do you reply, "I *hope* so?" But, dear friends, *hoping* is not enough; you ought to be *certain*. "I fear I am not saved." Then take your place as a lost sinner, and claim the lost sinner's Saviour. "I intend to be saved sometime; but there is no great hurry." What! "No great hurry?" Do you know that at this very moment you are condemned to be punished with everlasting destruction? "He that believeth not is condemned already." (John iii, 18). Without a moment's warning you may be called into God's presence; and, Oh, what will you then say? When asked why you despised His pardon, and trampled under your feet the blood of His Son, what answer will you give? Your tongue will cleave to the roof of your mouth, and you will be speechless.