

## "THE BLOOD OF JESUS, ONLY."

THE gospel had been preached for several successive evenings in a village. After the last meeting the old servant of God who had brought before souls the good news of salvation by grace, spoke a few words to a young girl as she was going out. She had attended the meetings regularly but, to all appearance, without having received any impression from them.

"Annie," said he, looking seriously at her, "the blood of Jesus Christ only, can make you pure before God."

Annie felt somewhat hurt by this personal notice, and more still by the strange words which had been spoken to her. They continued to ring in her ears as she returned home. She said to herself: "I lead, anyway, an honest and prudent life, and although I do not doubt that I have my faults, most people are much worse than I am, why then can I only be purified by the blood of Jesus Christ?"

But the Spirit of God who had directed Annie's attention to these words did not allow her to rest. What she had heard the last evening came back vividly to her mind and began to trouble her. "*All have sinned*," the preacher had said, "and come short of the glory of God." (Rom. iii., 23.) Was it not true?

"Yes," she was obliged to answer; "for whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one