I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth-his roots as Lebanon.—Hosea xiv. 5.

THE CYCLOMETER.



THAT is a cyclometer ? It is a small instrument used by bicycle and tricvcle riders for measuring the distance run. It is attached to the axle of the driv-

ing-wheel, and is so constructed that a train of wheels, contained in a case, and mechanism revolve, setting in motion hands which move on dial-plates outside, as in a watch. These dial-plates show either the number of revolutions of the driving-wheel, or the distance in miles and furlongs. In the former case a little calculation is required to find the exact distance run; in the other, the length of the journey can be seen at once. At various stages on his journey the traveller alights and examines the distance register. He can thus tell how far he has travelled since his last examination: he can calculate his rate of speed, and, if he knows the route, can tell the probable time of his arrival at his destination.

The cylometer is of direct use only to the rider; but it has its lesson for all. In a spiritual sense we are all travellers along a road we have not traversed before. We shall do well, therefore, to carry with us a spiritual cyclometer, and frequently to use it. After the day's work it were well to ask, "What distance have I run to day, and along what road have I travelled ?"

One all-important enquiry which you

must settle before proceeding farther is this:—On which road am I travelling ? Scripture speaks of two paths. There is the broad path that leadeth to destruction, and there is the narrow way that leadeth unto life. Settle at once this question:—Is my face set Heavenward ? Whither do my footsteps tend —to Heaven or hell ? There is no middle course. I am either treading the path that leadeth unto life, or I am following the road that leadeth to destruction. On which road am I ?

Are you a believer ? Then self-examination will open out to you a wide range of enquiry. But beware lest range of enquiry. while looking at yourself you withdraw your gaze from Christ. Self-examination will only be a help so far as it unites you more closely to Him. Do not con-fuse things that differ. Your acceptance before God depends entirely upon the work of Christ for you. The work of the Holy Spirit in you is the result of that acceptance. Is thine heart right ? Measure it fairly; test it honest-Is thine heart The Bible will suggest many topics lv. Self-examination in the of enquiry. light of God's Word will show you your weakness. You are at the best an unprofitable servant; but let not this discourage you. Your source of strength is Christ. Bring all your sins of omission and commission, of thought, word, and deed to the Lord Jesus, and rejoice in His pardoning love. "If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin."



The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knoweth them that trust in Him.—Nahum i. 7.