

The sister desiring to hear from his own mouth the reason for his happiness, asked him :

“ Whence came this new found joy ? You have appeared so unhappy for some time past.”

“ How can I tell ?” replied the sick man. “ I do not know how to explain it, but so it is. When beforetime I thought of the past, when I looked back I only saw my life as sins upon sins; but now when I look back I only see *Christ and His work on the cross*. Yes, and as to my actual position I only saw suffering and misery; to-day I see everywhere nothing but Christ and His love. If in the past I thought of the future I saw nothing before me but darkness and eternal torment, but now I seem to have nothing before me but Christ and eternal glory.”

Such were the words of the sick man. Happy the one who has nothing but Christ. Is it your case, dear reader ?

O God ! thine everlasting grace
 Our scanty thought surpasses far :
 Great in almighty gentleness,
 Thine arms of love wide open are ;
 On this by faith my soul relies—
 Father, thy mercy never dies.
 Yes ; I have found the ground wherein
 Sure, the soul's anchor doth remain—
 E'en Christ—who to atone for sin
 Was as a spotless victim slain ;
 Whose worth shall still unchanging stay
 And never, never know decay.

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