

## JEHOSAPHAT HELPED GOD.

Jehosaphat asked for divine help and at the same time did all he could to help himself.

There are many who are not King's who ought to learn this lesson. There are many who are always asking help of God especially in difficult matters, but leave him to do all the work. They will ask God to feed the poor; and yet when a hungry man or woman comes to their door they won't even give them a crust of bread. They ask God to cloth the naked; and yet they always find other uses for their cast off garments. They ask God to shelter the wanderer; and yet when the homeless come to their door for shelter they direct them to the next neighbor whom they commend as occasionally harbour "tramps." They will ask God to multiply and extend the means of grace; but yet when a collection for that purpose is announced they are ready to charge the minister with "continual begging of money for this, that, and nobody know what other schemes." They are the kind that *pray*, but don't *do*. In fact they are 'pious shirks' and "verily, verily they have their reward."

**BIBLICAL REVISION.**—Land seems in sight at last. Steadily but surely has this important work been going on; and now we read that the Company have completed their second revision of the Epistle of St. James. The nation has waited patiently for a work conducted by so many eminent scholars and divines. The study of the Bible has become more interesting than ever, and the recent writings of such men as Ellicott, and Hawson, and Farrar, have done much to make the ordinary reader deeply interested in all these varied touches of thought which a careful re-examination of the text suggests. We have never feared that Rationalism would be the gainer. Far from that, we firmly believe that the result of all these labors will be to furnish irrefragable proof that the word of the Lord is true, and endureth forever. Some timid souls deprecate the revision at all, lest alien doctrines might be dragged in, or lest the old granite foundations might be injured.

We rejoice to believe that the revisionists will do honor to the laborers who went before them in the great work, and that there will be furnished us in this unsettled age another testimony to the fact that the Inspired Word has nothing to fear from the most searching criticism, and that another testimony will be added to the multitude of existing ones that the "Word of the Lord is a tried word."

THE Pope has gone to purgatory, and the prayers of all faithful ones are asked for his release, whereupon the *National Baptist*.—"What under the son is the use of one's being the keeper of the keys if he cannot let himself in?"

It sounds strangely on this side the water, but it may indicate considerable progress on the other. That at a conference of clergyman in Elgin, Scotland, it was agreed to urge upon their several congregations to desist from the practice of "giving drink at funerals."

REV. JOHN MARPLES.—Last week, in Toronto, the Rev. John Marples, once a minister of the Presbyterian Church, committed suicide, by taking 10 grains strychnine. Some time ago he left the Presbyterian Church and had become a very pronounced Spiritualist.

THE Rev. Dr. Macleod stated lately that for 103 years there had been the same family in the manse of Funnary. His grandfather came from Skye 103 years ago, and his son is minister there still. Old Rorie, the boatman, came along with his grandfather, and the son of Rorie was boatman to this day.

Sir Alexander Gordon, M. P., for East Aberdeenshire, has given notice of motion as follows for "an early day :"—*To move*.—"That an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that Her Majesty will be pleased to appoint a commission to require into the causes keep that under the Presbyterians of Scotland, with a view to the removal of any impediments which may exist to their reunion in a National Church, as established at the Reformation, and ratified by the Revolution Settlement and the Act of Union."