

teaching us the necessity of "sowing beside all waters." Perhaps the good missionary who gave this poor woman the Testament never knew the good it had been the means of doing—the comfort it had given to her weary spirit; but he will know on the resurrection day!

Reader, is the word of God a "fountain" of sweet "oil" to you? Has it softened *your* heart, and made you love all God's people, as it did the heart of this poor woman?

THE POWER OF FAITH.

A CLERGYMAN in Suffolk, happening to go into a Sunday school, saw a class of six boys very idle and disobedient. He spoke to them very kindly, and gently rebuked them, telling them they ought to pray to God to make them good. As they did not appear to think there was much use in this, he opened the Bible, and read to them from Ezekiel xxxvi. 26, 27: "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them." He asked them who made this promise; and they answered, "God." "Well, if I were to promise to give you something, would you not believe me?" "Yes," was the instant reply. "And will you believe a poor sinful creature like man, and not believe God?" He left them to think over what he had said, and it seemed to make an impression upon them; for, after a while, one said to the rest, "I cannot help thinking of what that gentleman has said. Do you believe that what he read to us is true?" "Oh, yes," said another, "it is certainly true, for it is in the Bible." "Well," said the first boy, "I've a great mind to try: let us ask the rest." They all debated the matter together, and at last knelt down and prayed that God would give to them a new heart, and help them by His Holy Spirit to walk in His Statutes, and do His will.

The after history of that class proved the efficacy of their prayer: five out of the six boys were changed in heart and conduct from that day, and three subsequently went forth as missionaries to convey to the heathen the knowledge of that God and Saviour, the truth of whose promises, and the power of whose grace, they had so wonderfully experienced.—*Church of England Sunday School Quarterly.*