

your thought mainly upon saving your soul. But forfeit self, forfeit all, for *Christ*, just for Christ himself. Jesus will charm your soul. Inquire for his beauty, look upon him with the spirit's eyes, study him, yield to him: he will charm you.

When will we learn that to deny self is to indulge ourselves? To be poor in spirit is to inherit the earth. Give up? Yes, give up. The old tree stood straight and high in the forest, the lumberman came along and made it give up the great chips or the sawdust at the trunk, until it fell down with a crash. Then it must give up its limbs to be sawed into logs. Next they passed it through the saw-mill, until it gave up a slab on this side and another on that, and still another and another. Poor thing, it is not half as large as it was when it went into the mill, but it is straighter and smoother and more useful. And now they make it give up more saw-dust until it is of the right size, a timber to be planed. They take it to the planing mill. Here it gives up more shavings than a child can carry away in a basket. And now the carver has it. Chip after chip, coarser and finer, are given up, curves and circles and right lines have been cut, until at last the sand paper is applied and the stick gives up the small dust as a last demand of the skill and art and wis-