

ged five different times. Now if we should get one stripe upon our backs what a whining there would be ; there would be forty publishers after us before the sun went down, and they would want to publish our lives, that they might make capital out of it. But Paul says, Five times received I forty stripes, save one. That was nothing for him. Take your stand by his side.

"Paul, you have been beaten by these Jews four times, and they are going to give you thirty-nine stripes more ; what are you going to do after you get out of the difficulty ; what are you going to do about it at all ?"

"Do ?" says he, "I will do this one thing ; I will press towards the mark of the prize of my high calling ; I am on my way to get my crown." He was not going to lose his crown. "Don't think that a few stripes will turn me away, these light afflictions are nothing."

And so they put on thirty-nine more stripes.

He had sprung into the race for Christ, as it were, and was leaping towards heaven. If you will allow me the expression, the devil got his match when he met Paul. He never switched off on to a side-track. He never sat down to write a letter to defend himself. All the strength that he had he gave to Christ. He never gave a particle to the world nor to himself to defend himself. This one thing I do, he said, I am not going to lose the crown. See that no man taketh your crown.

Thrice was he beaten with rods. Take your stand again beside him.

"Now, Paul, they have beaten you twice, and they are