

tions of the Holy Ghost, and last of all, in his utter despair, in the hope that by exemplary conduct, he might at least gain the easiest place in hell. These struggles alternated with humiliating falls into his former evil conduct, even when he was beginning to flatter himself on his victories. He was on the verge of despair when, while returning from a religious service, a young man with whom he was walking assured him, in a quiet sober way, that God was willing to save any sinner who would believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. He trusted God and became a new creature.

He at once left the reading club and chose for his companions the Christian men of the prison, and now the unreasonable expectations which he, like many other young Christians, entertained, as to Christian perfection, were bitterly disappointed. He became, however, more reasonable when he found how hard the old Adam died in himself. The question of the ordinances now pressed itself upon him. He had been reared as a Presbyterian and had looked with contempt upon the people called Baptists or Anabaptists. His own study of the New Testament, however, convinced him of the truth of the position he had once despised and he became a Baptist in belief, although, evidently owing to lack of opportunity in the French prison, he was not baptised until after his return to Scotland.

The order for the relief of the prisoners came at last, and the separation of those who had enjoyed sweet Christian fellowship was keenly painful, even if, by their very separation, they were regaining their liberty. After an eventful and, at times, painful and exhausting journey through France and England and Scotland, Mr. Gilmour reached his old home one evening in the spring of 1814. He had been absent six years. In the meantime his father had died, and a brother's hospitality was substituted for a father's welcome.

His wanderings in search of adventure were now at an end. He had reached Ayr exhausted in body, and, what was worse, in spiritual ill health, because of the experiences through which he had passed, and in which he had neglected the simple laws of spiritual growth. For the delightful experience of being borne along by the intense joy of the new found peace, he had now to learn to substitute the strength that comes from an intelligent