

who was exalted to give repentance and remission of sins.

And what Jesus has got in them. "And they continuing with one accord." One accord—all strife and wrangling dead. In that pure atmosphere envy and jealousy can find no place,—“did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart;” as if one great brotherly spirit dwelt within them. They had all things common—how complete and perfect the transformation. They sold their possessions, and parted them as every man had need.

The glorious change fills every page, gleaming, flashing everywhere.

Peter and John went up together. Together—that is a new thing. Were they not the rival claimants, of all opponents first and strongest? But now there is no separating them. Here is some acquaintance of Peter's who stops him for a moment. “Excuse me, Peter, but a little time since, when I met you, things were looking very bright. You expected to come into a position of vast influence and wealth—Prime Minister, Keeper of the Keys in the House of David. May I ask after your position? I see you have come into a fortune, you look so happy.”

“Silver and gold have I none,” cries Peter, but without a hint of disappointment or regret. He does not seem to think about it for a moment. See what Jesus has got in Peter—one who cannot pass a beggar without pity and a great longing to help him. And see what Peter has got in Jesus Christ—not one who is going to make him rich and happy and great, but one who through him can

bend over a lame man and lift him up and set him on his feet!

And Peter took him by the right hand—took the beggar! Really, Peter, Saint Peter, great Apostle and Bishop, trusted with such awful authority, first of a line of wondrous successors of lords spiritual and temporal, who in their splendid pomp shall claim to be the keeper of thy keys, be not so forgetful of thy dignity and high position as to go taking beggars by the hand! Ah, Peter has forgotten all about himself. The love, the pity, the mighty helpfulness of Jesus Christ fill all his soul. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And as Peter watches the man going leaping and praising God, he knows more joy and blessedness than ever came to Prime Minister or Lord of the Treasury.

Follow the story. Things get worse and worse with Peter. Poor Peter! how disappointed he must be! The last time we saw him he had neither silver nor gold, and now they have taken him off to prison, and to-morrow he is to be brought before the judges. On, follow them as they go to their own company, and join in that praise meeting. What a might as of omnipotence these men find in the very name of Jesus! What a defiance of triumph! what a great untroubled rest is theirs as they sing of Him and of the signs and wonders that shall be wrought in the name of the Holy Child Jesus!

Worse yet. Poverty was bad; prison was worse. But now here come the Apostles—beaten, bruised, bleeding!—their dreams of greatness have had a rude awakening. What now of their strifes and ambitions? Beaten! what indignity and shame is this!