

when the disciples could not do wonderful things.

No one knew when Jesus would come back. At last the people saw him coming, and they ran to meet him. How glad the poor father must have been to see Jesus! He fell on his knees, and said, "Lord, I beseech thee look upon my son, for he is my only child." And then he told him all about the boy. Jesus said, "Bring thy son hither." But as the boy was coming, the devil threw him on the ground, and there the poor creature lay foaming at the mouth. Ah, that devil knew who Jesus was—all the devils know the Son of God, and are afraid of him.

The poor man was very unhappy to see his son lying in such pain upon the ground, and he said to Jesus, "If thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us." If the father had known Jesus better, he would not have said, "If thou canst;" he would have felt quite sure that Jesus could cure him. Then Jesus asked the man whether he believed. What could the poor father say? He did believe a little, but he did not believe as much as he ought. Immediately the man cried out, "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief." As he said this, the tears came into his eyes. Poor man! I am sure you would have pitied him, if you had seen him. It was a good prayer he made when he said to Jesus, "Help thou mine unbelief." It showed that he believed that Jesus was God; for who but God can make people believe?

While the Lord was talking with the father, more people came running to the place—soon there would have been too great a crowd. Then Jesus said to the devil, "Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him." This deaf spirit heard the words of Jesus; this dumb spirit was able to cry out; it tore the boy, and came out of him. The people looked at the boy, and said, "He is dead." There he was,

lying on the ground, and looking just like a dead person. Jesus went to him, took his hand, and lifted him up. The child was alive, and quite well. Jesus gave him to his father. How happy that father must have been! Did he now believe in Jesus? He knew now that Jesus could cure his child.

Afterwards the disciples went into a house with their dear Master, and then said, "Why could not we cast out the devil?" Jesus said, "Because of your unbelief." The disciples had not prayed as they ought, and so they did not believe as they ought. Jesus had given them the power to do wonders, but they could not do them except whom they believed in the Son of God. Jesus can still do every thing. He has died upon the cross and he has been put into a grave; but he was alive again in three days, and went up to his Father in heaven, and there he sits at his right hand, and he hears the prayers of men in this world. Do you ever pray to him? I hope you do—in all your troubles go to him. If you do not believe that he can help you, say, "Lord, help mine unbelief." He is very kind, and pities people in distress; he is very strong, and able to help them out of all their troubles.

You may read this history in Matthew 17; 14-21; Mark 9: 14-29; Luke 9: 37-42.

"Lo! Satan trembles when he sees  
The weakest saint upon his knees."

### The Two Sisters.

A long while ago there lived two women named Martha and Mary. They were sisters, and they lived in a house in a pretty village. It was two miles from a great city called Jerusalem. It was on the side of a green hill, and it was planted with beautiful trees. Its name was Bethany. I cannot tell what kind of a house Martha and Mary lived in—Whether it was a large house, or only a cottage. One day a visitor came to their house; it was such a visitor as never came to your