

"That distresses me greatly," I replied, "but I have a serious question to ask you, and I pray you to answer with sincerity. When you said before that all your sins had been washed away in the precious blood of Christ, did you truly believe what you said, or did you say it only with a view to please me?"

"Oh no; I could not be untruthful in so serious a matter. Then I verily believed that it was the case, but now I know I was deceiving myself."

This answer showed me that it was as I had thought. The enemy of souls had succeeded in occupying my young friend with her faith and thus turning her away from the object of faith,—the Lord Jesus. In this manner she had been brought to think only of herself and believed she had deceived herself and deceived others. After having reflected a moment I read some verses in the first chapter of Leviticus: "If any man of you bring an offering unto the Lord, ye shall bringy our offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock. If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the Lord. And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering; and it shall be accepted for him, to make atonement for him."

"Now Sophia I said what would be your hope if it pleased God to take you away from the world to-day?"

Regarding me with an alarmed look and eyes filled with tears she said: "Ah, I would have no hope."