

DELIVERANCE FROM EVIL.

There is no more contemptible creature than the man whose eyes are on the ends of the earth, while he overlooks the evils of his own heart or of his own home. He is worse than the selfish religionist. Christ calls him a hypocrite who is forever trying to pull out the mote from a brother's eye, and neglects the beam that is in his own. Such are they who shout for all kinds of public reform, but forget the reformation of their own lives and of their own homes, which are emphatically the matters and which they are primarily responsible. Nay, the key to the right understanding of the evils and difficulties of others is to be found in a true appreciation of our own. We cannot well bear the burdens of others till we have been taught how each man "must bear his own burden."

It is easy enough to pray this petition in word. We have all said it to God from our infancy, "Deliver us from evil;" but, when we reflect on it, we may be astounded at our insincerity, for we are met with the plain question, Do you wish to be delivered from your evil—not from the consequences of your evil, but from the evil itself? Do you wish to be delivered from your selfishness, and to be made loving and self-sacrificing? Do you wish to be delivered from your greed, and from that spirit which resists every demand on your money or your time, as if it were an inroad on your rights? Is it that you really desire God to make you generous, so that when you are asked to give what imposes some sacrifice in order to aid this mission or charity, you do not resent the request as an intrusion, but meet it gladly? Do you wish to be made pure and humble and considerate, or, to put it in one word, do you wish to be made like Christ?—*Christian Advocate.*

THE SHATTERED IDOL.

History tells us that Mahmoud, the conqueror of India and destroyer of its idols, attacked, on one occasion, a temple of peculiar sanctity in Guzerat. As he forced an entrance, there stood before him a gigantic idol five yards high. He instantly ordered it to be destroyed. The Brahmins of the temple prostrated themselves at his feet and offered an enormous ransom; but Mahmoud declared he would rather be remembered as the breaker than the seller of idols, and struck the image

with his mace. His example was followed; and the image, which was hollow, burst with the blows, and poured forth a quantity of diamonds and other jewels, far more valuable than the proffered ransom.

A greater conqueror than Mahmoud stands at the temple of our hearts to-day, and a greater idol than any "graven by art or man's device," even the mighty idol, Self, too often bars His entrance. Shall we hinder that Pierced Hand from shattering His enemy and ours? Nay, rather let us ask Him to strike the blow which enriches as it falls. Greater riches than Mahmoud's will be ours. Never till self is shattered can we learn the full meaning of being Christ possessed.—*Rev. E. W. Moore.*

WHAT BRINGS PEACE?

A doctor who was once visiting a Christian patient had himself long been anxious to feel that he was at peace with God; the Spirit had convinced him of his sin and need, and he longed to possess "that peace which the world cannot give." On this occasion, addressing himself to the sick one, he said: "I want you to tell me what it is—this believing and getting happiness, faith in Jesus, and all that sort of thing that brings peace." "Doctor, I have felt that I could do nothing, and I have put my ease in your hands; I am trusting to you. That is exactly what every poor sinner must do in the Lord Jesus." This reply greatly awakened the doctor's surprise, and a new life broke in upon his soul. "Is that all?" he exclaimed; simply trusting in the Lord Jesus? I see it as I never did before. He has done the work. Yes, Jesus said on the cross, 'It is finished,' and 'whoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.' From that sick bed the doctor went a happy man, rejoicing that his sins were washed away in the blood of the lamb.

TWELVE GOLDEN RULES.

Hold integrity sacred; observe good manners; endure trials patiently; be prompt in all things; make good acquaintances; shun the company of the idle, dare to do right, fear to do wrong; watch carefully over your temper; never be afraid of being laughed at; fight life's battle manfully, bravely; use your leisure moments for study; sacrifice money rather than principle.