

Now, have any of my readers begun to find out that they too much resemble the proud pharisee? Then, my dear young friends, attend seriously to what the Saviour says respecting him. He says, "I tell you, this man," that is, the publican, "went down to his house justified rather than the other." The meaning is, that the pharisee, with all his good opinion of himself, and all the respect and admiration which he might obtain from other men, was not approved or beloved by God. Probably it was very true, that he was neither an "extortioner, nor unjust, nor an adulterer;" but he was a proud man, and his pride was what prevented him from being justified. "For every one that exalteth himself shall be abased." "God resisteth the proud." "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall." He went to the temple and prayed, and returned home again, but we cannot suppose that he felt comfortable or happy in his own mind; for it is quite impossible for any one to be truly happy without the favour of God.

And I am certain that you are not happy while your minds are filled with proud thoughts. If you are always wishing and expecting to be praised, you will be very often disappointed. If there is pride in your hearts, it will show itself in your behaviour, even though you may fancy that no one observes it. When your teacher, or other friends see it, it will keep them from praising you, even when you might otherwise deserve it: and even your companions will dislike you. You will be constantly getting vexed and affronted, by things that would not give you the least uneasiness if you were modest, humble children.

But, if it should so happen, that you get as much praise as you desire, and that you should be loved and esteemed by all who know you; still I say it again, you cannot be happy. You must be sometimes alone, and you will find it very tiresome, for you cannot

enjoy the presence of God, or have any pleasure in thinking of that Saviour, who "is a friend that loveth at all times." You may now be strong and well, but you cannot tell how soon sickness may come upon you. If you were tossing on your beds, full of pain, would it give you any comfort to think of the good opinion that others had of you? And if your weeping father or mother should be obliged to tell you that the doctor could do you no good, and that you were getting worse, O how could you bear to think of your soul returning to God who gave it; appearing before Him who knows all your proud thoughts?

But there have been many persons, both old and young, who have not only lived, but even died, thinking that they certainly deserved to go to heaven for their good conduct, and because they were better than others. And this may be *your* case. If you will still continue to think highly of yourselves, your pride may so increase, and your hearts may be so hardened, that even the prospect of death may not alarm you. But oh it is an awful thing thus to go down to the grave with "a lie in your right hand!" You may "exalt yourselves" to the very last; but how fearfully will you "be abased," when God shall bring you into judgment! Instead of humbly trusting in Jesus Christ, as an all-sufficient Saviour, you trusted in your own good behaviour; but when that behaviour, which you thought so good, comes to be examined by the Judge of all, it will cover you with everlasting confusion.

THE LITTLE BOY'S QUESTION.

Dear young Reader,—It is with great delight that I begin to write a few lines for your instruction and benefit. It is delightful to think of obeying the command of our dear Redeemer, when he says, "Feed my lambs." He is most deeply interested in the welfare of the young—most intensely desirous that they should know Him