

Heoi ra ka manau tatou ki nga taha e rua o ta Naumana kahua. Kowai ra i rahi ake i a ia? He tangata whai mana, rangatira, tonu; he aha ra i kore i a ia? Ki ta te tangata whakaaaro atu, ko ia te mea i hira ake. Ko ia te tino rangatira o nga ope taua o Iliia; i whakawhirinakitia ia i paingia e te Kingi; a i runga i a ia e mau ana te tohu o te tonu.

"Otira he repara ia!" Aue! ko te raru tena—muu kua ana ko nga tohu rangatira, ko te manaa tenei i whakaaoritia ai tena kororia. Kahore he whi maori o tona tinana i tenei mate whakarihahi, a, na konei te whai ahua reka ia ki nga tohu rangatira kua onen atu ki runga ki a ia, otira waiho rawa ano enei tohu hei whakapouri i tona ngakanu. Na tona whakaaorangia kia teitei mai ka marama te titiro atu a te tangata ki tona mate ko te ingoa i kake ko te tinana he pirau. Kakehu noa ana ia i te kakahu whakapaipai o te rangatira hoi, kaore, he hipoki enei no nga pirau o te repara. E kore pea te tino tutu rawa o a Naumana pononga, mehemeha i repara ia, e pera te manaa o tona ngakanu me te Naumana. Na te teitei o tona ata tangata i manaa rawa ai tona ngakanu ki tenei mate whakarihahi. Ira ano te nui rawa atu o tana e utu ai ki te tangata tohunga mana ia e whakaaora i tona repara-tanga. Kaore ra moake ano ia ora i runga i te utu kore.

Na, ka titiro atu tatou ki tenei i ra te whakaaaturanga a nga karnipiture, ka kite tatou he pera ano me Naumana te tangata hara katonu i tona ahua maori ake. Kua kapi katonu ia i te mate, o te hua o te kino. Ae ra; kua kapi katonu a waho ona, a ko roto ano hoki tokii toru i te mate o te haru, kaore nei a te tangata rongonui e ora ai. Tera pea, he pera ia me Naumana e karepotia ana e te taonga o te rangatira; ko te mea ia he tangata hara ia—kua ngaro ia i te atarangi o te mate—kua he ia; a ka whakakitea tenei ki ona kanohi, ma enei mea i whakaaoritia ai ia, a ia e tino whakapouri ki roto ki tona ngakanu.

KUA NGARO IA, KO TANA E HIAHIA AI I TE
* * * WHAKAORANGA. * * *

Ka rapu ia ko tona mate kia whakaaorangia, kia horoia tona hara, kia tahia te

—"valiant;" what more could he be? He was, as men would say, one of fortune's most highly favoured sons. He was commander-in-chief of the forces of Syria; he possessed the confidence and esteem of the king; and he wore upon his brow the laurel of victory.

"But he was a leper!" Alas! this was a sad drawback—a grievous blight upon all his dignities—a heavy cloud upon all his glory. The foul disease which covered his person not only prevented his enjoyment of the honours which fortune had heaped upon him, but actually changed them into so many sources of humiliation and chagrin. His very elevation made his malady conspicuous, and the sunshine of prosperity made his personal vileness apparent. His military costume enveloped the person of a leper, and his laurel of victory crowned a leper's brow. In short, the lowest menial in Nauman's establishment would not have felt the humiliation of leprosy so keenly as the noble captain himself. The higher he was in position, the more intensely he must have felt the degradation and depression of his loathsome disease. What would he not have given to any one who would but take his leprosy? And yet, he was soon to have it taken away for nothing!

Now, when we look at all this from an evangelical point of view, we discern, in the person of Nauman, the case of a sinner in his natural state. He is covered with the disease of sin. Yes; outwardly he is covered, and inwardly pervaded with the incurable malady of sin. He may, like Nauman, be surrounded by wealth and splendour, pillowed on the bosom of fortune, nursed in the very lap of luxury; but he is a sinner—he is lost—he is undone; and when once he is brought to see this, his very honours and dignities only serve to make his inward wretchedness all the more intense. * * * * *

HE IS LOST, AND HE WANTS SALVATION.

He wants to have his malady removed, his guilt cancelled, his conscience cleansed. This is what he wants, and this is what God has provided for him. As in Nauman's case, God had the water of Jordan to cleanse him from every trace of his disease, so in