

kino e peli ana ki tona hinengaro. Ko taua tenei e hiahia ake ai, a ko tenei, kua takoto i te Atua mona. Pera hoki me te kechi o Naamana, kua whakaritea te wai o Horano, e te Atua, hei horoi atu i tona mate kino rawa; whakihoki te kechi o ia tangata e pouri ana mo ona hana; kua whakaritea e te Atua "nga toto utu nui o te Karaiti" hei horoi i a ia; ona kino katoa, a, kia whakuentatia atu i a ia nga take riririga.

Otiia, ka kimi ano tatou i te matauranga, e puta mai ana ki a tatou, i nga korero mo Naamana. "Na, i haere atu nga toroko a nga Hirirua, a riro parau mai ana i a ratou tetahi kotiro iti i te whenua o Iharaia; na, ka waiho ia ma te wahine a Naamana. Na ko te meatanga ake a tana ki tona rangatira Aue! Me i tata toku ariki ki te poropiti i Hamaria! Katahi ano he kai whakaoa mo tona repera." Aue! te tatata kau atu te ahua o tenei kotiro whakaraia, ki ta tana ariki rangatira! I te kotiro whakaraia te matauranga ki tetahi taonga nui; ko tona ariki i te kuware! Kua matau te kotiro kei te whenua o Iharaia te taonga o te ora, e rapa nona nei tona rangatira kia kitea e ia. Kua matau taua kotiro ki te wahi e kitea ai te atawhai, a na tona mohio ake ki tana atawhai i whakaki tona ngakau ki te hiahia kia whiwhi ano hoki tona ariki ki tana atawhai. "Aue, me i tata toku ariki ki te poropiti i Hamaria! Katahi ano he kai-whakaoa mo tona repera." E pona tonu ana. E whakaki ana te atawhai i te ngakau ki te hiahia rapa atu i te pai, kia riro ki era atu tangata. Hei aha ki tana kotiro tona whakaraunga atu i te whenua o ona matua, me tona noho ingoa heretere, i roto i te whare o te Hirirua. Titiro tonu atu ia ki te repera o tona rangatira, a ko te toko ake o tona hiahia, kia tokutahi atu ia ki tona ariki ki te kuarahi e ora ai ia. Ko te Atua anake o Iharaia te tino Kaiwhakaoa o te repera. "Na, kua haere tetahi, kua korero ki tona Ariki, kua mea, Ko nga korero tenei a te kotiro i riro mai i te whenua o Iharaia. Na, ko te meatanga a te kingi o Hiri, Haeromai, haere, me tuku pukapuka atu ahau ki te kingi o Iharaia. Heo: haere ana ia, maua atu ana e tona ringa, tekau nga taranata hiriwa, e ono mano nga koura, tekan nga whakarua kakahu." Te tata kau

the case of the convicted sinner, He has provided "the precious blood of Christ" to cleanse him from every stain of guilt, and free him from every breath of condemnation.

But let us see how strikingly all this comes out in our narrative. "And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife. And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy." What a difference between this little captive maid and her noble lord! And yet she was in possession of a grand secret of which he was wholly ignorant. She knew that in the land of Israel her master could find what he wanted. She understood where grace was to be found, and the knowledge of that grace filled her heart with the desire that her lord should partake thereof. "Would God," said she, "he were there." It is ever thus. Grace fills the heart with earnest desire for the good of others. It mattered not to the little maid that she was an exile from the land of her fathers, and a captive in the house of a Syrian. She saw that her master was a leper, and she longed to put him in the way of being healed. The God of Israel was the only One who could perfectly meet the leper's need.

"And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel. And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment." How hard it is for the human heart to rise to the measure of the thoughts of God! The idea of being cleansed for nothing never entered Naaman's mind. He was, we may safely say, quite ready to give largely, if by that means his leprosy could be cleansed; but the idea of getting all he wanted "without money and without price" was entirely beyond him, and his cumbrous preparations. He knew not, as yet, the grace of the God of Israel. He thought that the gift of God was to be pur-