

A SECOND TIME INTO HIS FACE, I SAW TEARS TRICKLING DOWN HIS CHEEKS, AND HE WAS EVIDENTLY UNDER DEEP EMOTION. I COULD NOT UNDERSTAND HOW IT WAS THAT THIS MAN, A TOTAL STRANGER TO ME, SHOULD TAKE SUCH A DEEP INTEREST IN MY WELFARE, AND ALSO SHED TEARS TALKING TO ME.

I REACHED OUT MY HAND TO BID HIM GOODBYE. HE TOOK IT IN BOTH OF HIS AND GENTLY PRESSED IT, THE TEARS STILL CONTINUING TO RUN DOWN HIS FACE AND SAID: "STRANGER, IF IT IS ANY SATISFACTION FOR YOU TO KNOW IT IF YOU WILL GIVE ME YOUR CARD OR NAME, I PROMISE YOU ON THE HONOR OF A CHRISTIAN MAN, THAT DURING THE NEXT THREE MONTHS I WILL NOT RETIRE TO REST AT NIGHT WITHOUT MAKING MENTION OF YOU BY NAME IN MY PRAYERS. AND NOW MAY MY SAVIOUR FOLLOW YOU, TROUBLE YOU, AND GIVE YOU NO REST UNTIL YOU FIND HIM, WHAT I HAVE FOUND HIM TO BE A PRECIOUS SAVIOUR, AND THE MESSIAH YOU ARE LOOKING FOR."

I THANKED HIM FOR HIS ATTENTION AND HIS CONSIDERATION, AND AFTER HANDING HIM MY CARD, SAID, I FEEL RATHER SNEERINGLY, "THERE IS NOT MUCH DANGER OF MY EVER BECOMING A CHRISTIAN."

HE THEN HANDED ME HIS CARD, SAYING AS HE DID SO, "WILL YOU PLEASE DROP ME A NOTE OR A LETTER IF GOD SHOULD ANSWER MY PRAYER ON YOUR BEHALF?" I SMILED INCREDULOUSLY AND SAID, "CERTAINLY, I WILL, NEVER DREAMING THAT WITHIN THE NEXT FORTY-EIGHT HOURS GOD IN HIS MERCY WOULD ANSWER THAT BARBER'S PRAYER. I SHOOK HIS HAND HEARTILY AND SAID, "GOOD-BYE."

AS THE WEATHER WAS BITTERLY COLD THE PASSENGERS WERE NOT NUMEROUS IN THE TRAIN, THE CAR I HAD ENTERED NOT BEING MORE THAN HALF FILLED; AND, WITHOUT BEING CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT IN LESS THAN TEN OR FIFTEEN MINUTES I HAD OCCUPIED EVERY EMPTY SEAT IN THE CAR.

THE PASSENGERS BEGAN TO LOOK AT ME WITH SUSPICION AS THEY SAW ME CHANGE MY SEAT SO FREQUENTLY IN SO SHORT A TIME WITHOUT ANY APPARENT OBJECT. FOR MY PART, I DID NOT THINK AT THAT TIME THAT THE WRONG WAS IN MY HEART, ALTHOUGH I COULD NOT ACCOUNT FOR MY ERRATIC MOVEMENTS.

ON MY ARRIVAL AT WASHINGTON I PURCHASED A MORNING NEWSPAPER, AND ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION WAS THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A REVIVAL SERVICE IN THE LARGEST CHURCH IN WASHINGTON. NO SOONER HAD I SEEN THAT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT AN INNER MONITOR SAID TO ME, "GO TO THAT CHURCH." I HAD NEVER BEEN INSIDE OF A CHRISTIAN CHURCH DURING DIVINE SERVICE AT ANY OTHER TIME I SHOULD HAVE SCOUTED SUCH A THOUGHT AS FROM THE DEVIL. IT WAS MY FATHER'S INTENTION WHEN I WAS A BOY THAT I SHOULD BECOME A RABBI, AND SO I PROMISED HIM THAT I WOULD NEVER ENTER A PLACE WHERE "JESUS, THE IMPOSTER, WAS WORSHIPED AS GOD AND THAT I WOULD NEVER ATTEMPT TO READ A BOOK CONTAINING THAT NAME, AND I HAD FAITHFULLY KEPT MY WORD.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE REVIVAL MEETINGS JUST REFERRED TO, IT WAS STATED THAT THERE WOULD BE SPECIAL SINGING AT EACH OF THE SERVICES. BEING A PASSIONATE LOVER OF MUSIC, THIS ATTRACTED MY ATTENTION, AND I MADE IT MY EXCUSE FOR SEEKING TO ATTEND THE SERVICE THAT NIGHT. WHEN I ENTERED THE BUILDING, WHICH WAS FILLED, ONE OF THE USHERS, ATTRACTED DOUBTLESS BY MY GOLD EPAULETTES (FOR I HAD NOT CHANGED MY UNIFORM), LED ME UP TO THE FRONT SEAT, RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE PREACHER, AN EVANGELIST WELL KNOWN BOTH IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA. I WAS CHARMED WITH THE BEAUTIFUL SINGING, BUT THE EVANGELIST HAD NOT BEEN SPEAKING FIVE MINUTES BEFORE I CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT SOMEONE MUST HAVE BEEN INFORMING HIM WHO I WAS, FOR I THOUGHT HE POINTED HIS FINGER AT ME. HE KEPT WATCHING ME, AND EVERY NOW AND THEN APPEARED TO BE SHAKING HIS FIST AT ME. IN SPITE OF ALL THIS, HOWEVER, I FELT DEEPLY INTERESTED IN WHAT HE SAID. BUT THIS WAS NOT ALL, FOR STILL RINGING IN MY EARS WERE THE WORDS OF THE TWO FORMER PREACHERS—THE CHRISTIAN BARBER OF NEW YORK AND THE DRUMMER-BOY OF GETTYSBURG—EMPHASIZING THE UTTERANCES OF THE EVANGELIST, AND IN MY MIND I COULD PLAINLY SEE THESE TWO DEAR FRIENDS ALSO REPEATING THEIR MESSAGES. GROWING MORE AND MORE INTERESTED IN THE WORDS OF THE PREACHER, I FELT TEARS TRICKLING DOWN MY FACE. THIS STARTLED ME, AND I BEGAN TO FEEL ASHAMED THAT I, AN ORTHODOX JEW SHOULD BE CHILDISH ENOUGH TO SHED TEARS IN A CHRISTIAN CHURCH. AFTER A WHILE THE PREACHER FINISHED HIS ADDRESS, AND I WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR HIM ANNOUNCE AN AFTER MEETING AND INVITE ALL WHO COULD DO SO TO REMAIN: I DID NOT ACCEPT THE INVITATION, BEING ONLY TOO GLAD OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEAVE THE CHURCH. WITH THAT INTENTION I GOT UP FROM MY SEAT, AND REACHED THE DOOR, WHEN I FELT THAT SOMEONE HELD ME BY THE SKIRT OF MY COAT. TURNING AROUND, I SAW AN ELDERLY-LOOKING LADY.

ADDRESSING ME, SHE SAID: "PARDON ME, STRANGER: I SEE YOU ARE AN OFFICER IN THE ARMY. I HAVE BEEN WATCHING YOU ALL THIS EVENING, AND I BEG OF YOU NOT TO LEAVE THIS HOUSE, FOR I THINK YOU ARE UNDER CONVICTION OF SIN. I BELIEVE YOU CAME HERE TO SEEK THE