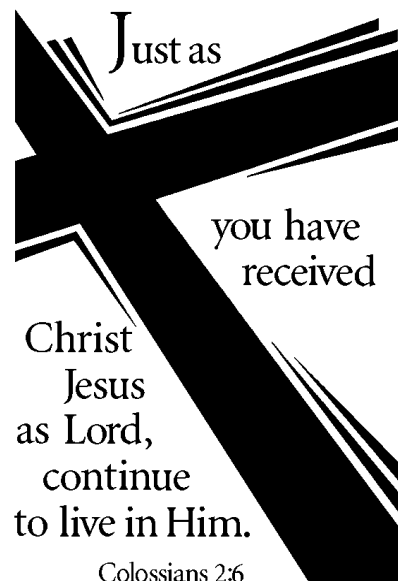


For HIS Glory
Prison Ministry
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Pray for all chaplains and their families.

August, 2019

In this little issue, and Lord willing, every issue, our *only* purpose is to honor *Jesus Christ*.

BROTHER SPURGEON SPEAKS OF HIS REASON FOR COMING TO CHRIST

The Lord draws men to Himself in different ways. I was allured to Christ very much by the hope of eternal safety. I was but a lad, and I saw young men, a little older than myself, who had been very promising youths, go off into drunkenness, and into vice of different kinds. And I thought that I might do the same. But when I read those words of the apostle, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day," I was charmed with Christ as a sort of preserver of character—an insurer of my soul unto eternal bliss! And I came to Him for that reason.

I have known others who have seen the happiness of Christians—their peace in the midst of turmoil; their joy in times of sorrow; their contentment in poverty; their calmness in prospect of death—and they have said, "If all this happiness can be had in Christ, I will come to Him for it." And in that way He has allured them. Perhaps some of you have never had any great terrors of conscience, or distress of soul—do not fret on that account! If you come by allurements, it is a covenant way of coming. If you are fascinated by the charms of Christ, it is the very way that God declares He will draw His erring, and His guilty people. Oh, that you would yield to the fascination! I pray that you may feel the allurements and say—

*"I yield—by mighty love subdued!
Who can resist its charms?
And throw myself, by wrath pursued,
Into my Savior's arms."*

Do any of you feel some soft drawing? Is there a pierced hand touching you, and a loving voice saying, "Seek the Lord"? Have you been very hard up till now, but does an unusual gentleness steal over your spirit as you are sitting in this house of prayer? Give yourself up to it—it may be that the time of divine grace is now upon you. I hope that it is so, that your birth-night has come, and that you are passing from death unto life! We have prayed about you. We met for an hour before service, and there was hard pleading for you. And God has given us the desire of our spirit, and you are to come to Christ tonight! Blessed Lord, if it is so, there will be work for angels in heaven to sing Your praises concerning a sinner that repents!—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #2564, Vol. 44—*Strange Ways of Love*—read/download the entire sermon free of charge at <http://www.spurgeongems.org>

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO C. H. SURGEON

If any here should be in doubt on account of ignorance, let me, as plainly as I can, state the gospel. I believe it to be wrapped up in one word—Substitution. I have always considered, with Luther and Calvin, that the sum and substance of the gospel lies in that word, Substitution—Christ standing in the place of man. If I understand the gospel, it is this—I deserve to be lost and ruined; the only reason why I should not be damned is that Christ was punished in my place, and there is no need to execute a sentence twice for the same sin. On the other hand, I know that I cannot enter heaven unless I have a perfect righteousness. I am absolutely certain I shall never have one of my own, for I find that I sin every day. But then Christ had a perfect righteousness, and He said, “Here, take My garment; put it on—you shall stand before God as if you were I—and I will stand before God as if I had been you. I will suffer in your place, and you shall be rewarded for works which you did not do, but which I did for you.”

I think the whole substance of salvation lies in the thought that Christ stood in the place of man. The prisoner is in the dock. He is about to be taken away to death. He deserves to die, for he has been a great criminal. But before he is removed, the judge asks whether there is any possible plan whereby the prisoner’s life can be spared. Up rises One who is, Himself, pure and perfect, has known no sin, and by the allowance of the judge, for that is necessary, He steps into the dock, and says, “Consider Me to be the prisoner. Pass the sentence on Me, and let Me die. Reckon the prisoner to be Myself. I have fought for My country. I have deserved a reward for what I have done—reward him as if he had done good—and punish Me as if I had committed the sin.” “But,” you say, “Such a thing could not occur in an earthly court of law.” No, but it has happened in God’s Court of Law, in the great court of King’s Bench where God is the Judge of All! The Savior said, “The sinner deserves to

die. Let Me die in his place, and let him be clothed in My righteousness.”

To illustrate this, I will give you two instances. One is that of an ancient king who enacted a law against a certain crime—the punishment of anyone who committed the crime was that he should have both his eyes put out.

His own son committed the crime. The king, as a strict judge, said, “I cannot alter the law. I have said that the loss of two eyes shall be the penalty—take out one of mine, and one of his.” So, you see, he strictly carried out the law, but, at the same time, he was able to have mercy in part upon his son.

But the case of Christ goes further than that. He did not say, “Exact half the penalty on Me, and half on the sinner.” He said, “Put both My eyes out; nail Me to the tree; let Me die; let Me take all the guilt away, and then the sinner may go free.”

We have heard of another case, that of two brothers, one of whom had been a great criminal, and was about to die, when his brother, coming into the court, decorated with medals, and having many wounds, rose up to plead with the judge that he would have mercy on the criminal for his sake.

Then he began to strip himself and show his scars—how here and there on his big broad chest he had received saber cuts in defense of his country. “By these wounds,” he said, and he lifted up one arm, the other having been cut away, “by these, my wounds, and the sufferings I have endured for my country, I beseech you, have mercy on him.” For his brother’s sake, the criminal was allowed to escape the punishment that was hanging over his head.

It was even so with Christ. “The sinner,” He said, “deserves to die. Then I will die in his place. He deserves not to enter heaven, for he has not kept the law of God; but I have kept the law for him—he shall have My righteousness, and I will take his sin—and so the Just shall die for the unjust, to bring him to God.”—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #2615, Volume 45—*The Anxious Enquirer*—read/download the entire sermon free of charge at <http://www.spurgeongems.org>

NOTABLE QUOTES OF CHARLES H. SPURGEON

“THE religion of Jesus is the most peaceful, mild, and benevolent religion which was ever promulgated. When we compare it with any set of dogmas invented by men, there is not one of them that can stand the least comparison with it for gentleness, mildness, and love. As for the religion of Mohamed, it is the religion of the vulture—but the religion of Jesus is that of the dove—all is mercy, all is mild. It is, like its founder, an embodiment of pure benevolence, grace and truth.”—1898, Sermon #2594

“I judge that the principal business of any minister of Christ, or of any elder of the Church of Christ, is to bear testimony to the sufferings of Christ. If the atoning sufferings of Christ are left out of a ministry, that ministry is worthless.”—1899, Sermon #2610

**PRAY THAT OUR LORD WILL USE THE WORK OF THE SPANISH TRANSLATIONS OF THE 574
SPURGEON SERMONS BY ALLAN ROMAN, deceased.**

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