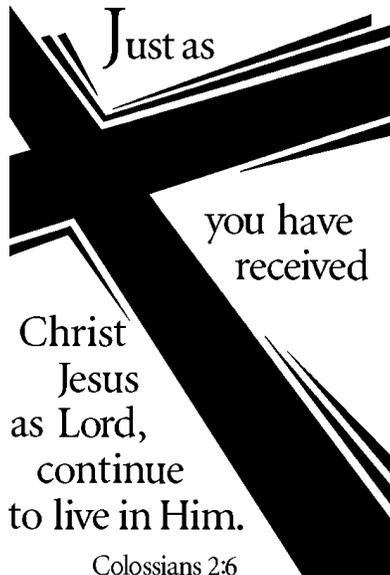


For HIS Glory
Prison Ministry
Emmett and Ann O'Donnell
P.O. Box 291301
Kerrville, TX 78029-1301



Pray for Missionaries and our military personnel overseas.

March, 2019

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

O Souls, Why Will You Die?

By Charles Haddon Spurgeon

If there is nothing in religion, why do you come here? [Metropolitan Tabernacle.] If there is salvation in believing in Christ, why are you not saved? You say there is a hell. Why are you going there? You know that there is a heaven. Why are you not preparing for it? You know that there is a Christ whose wounds bleed salvation—why are you not looking to Him? Is it all to be play, this religion of yours—going to meetings, sitting in your seats, and listening to the preacher? I would rather be silent than be fiddling to your dancing, or go through the service merely to spend a Sabbath in a decorous manner!

If you are not saved what shall I do? What shall I do? If you are saved, we will meet in Heaven, and we will praise God forever, each one of us—and our Lord shall have all the glory. But if you are lost! If you are lost—I cannot come to you, nor can you come to me—no matter what I do for you before the great gulf divides us. What? What shall I say when I render in my account? Shall I tell the Lord that you were not saved because I was afraid to tell you that there was a hell, and I kept back every threatening doctrine, and tried to make things pleasant for you, whether you were saved or not? I could not make that profession even if it could save your souls, for it would not be in any measure true!

“I have not shunned to declare unto you the whole counsel of God,” as far as I know it. God is my witness, and so are your consciences, that I have longed for your conversion! You who have heard me these years, if you are lost, it will not be for lack of pleading with, nor for lack of instruction, nor from lack of entreaties! O souls, why will you die? Why will you keep on procrastinating, and crying, “Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow”? Why should it always be *tomorrow*? There will be no tomorrow of hope for you when once you are dead!

Flee, now, to Christ! I pray you, by the living God, and by the heaven which He gives to those who believe in Christ, hasten to Jesus! Trust yourselves to Jesus now! By that dreadful doom which will surely fall on every man who dies rejecting Christ, I beseech you, flee from the wrath to come! Lord, grant that it may be so, for Jesus’ sake! Amen.

WHY ARE YOU AFRAID TO COME TO JESUS?

By Charles H. Spurgeon

“I am desirous to be saved,” says one, “but I do not think that Christ is willing to have me.” If you have a heart-felt desire after Christ, I know where you obtained it. It never grew in your garden. The dust heap of your heart would never yield so sweet a flower as that! It is the grace of God that has made you desire Christ, and for every spark of desire that you have to Christ, Christ has a volcano full of desire after you! Oh, if you have but a penny’s worth of desire for Him, He has ten thousand pounds worth of desire towards you!

“I would gladly be at peace with God,” says one. “I throw down the weapons of my rebellion tonight! I will say, ‘Lord, accept me.’” And do you think that He is unwilling to be at peace with you? Why, there never was any unwillingness on His part! He wills not the death of a sinner, but had rather that he would turn unto Him and live. Oh, do not imagine, do not imagine, any of you, that if there is any distance between you and God, God makes the distance! No, it is your own heart, your own unbelief, your love of sin—something sinful on your side—it is no lack of grace on His side!

I do not say that God will meet you halfway—I do not believe He will—I believe He will meet you all the way, every inch of it; that He will meet you just where you are! Like the poor man who was left between Jerusalem and Jericho, of whom it is said that the Good Samaritan came “where he was,” so Jesus will come and pour in the oil and the wine to heal and quicken!

Only cry unto Him! If you cannot frame words, groan out your prayer! Let your aching heart but cry, “My God, have mercy on me! For Jesus’ sake, forgive me,” and He will outrun you, sinner! He will outrun you! He will anticipate the prayer, and grant the blessing! Why are you afraid to come? You know not what God is, or you would come right willingly, and tell Him all your case. He can meet it! He understands it! He knows it now! Oh, come! Seek the secrecy of your chamber. Tell out as best you can, your sins, your fears, your weaknesses, and unbelief—and trust in that Son of God, who became man that He might lift men up to God—and as surely as you trust Him, you shall be saved!—Adapted from the *C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Version 1.0, Ages Software.—Sermon #3413, Volume 60—GOD’S MERCY GOING BEFORE—Read/download the entire sermon, free of charge, at www.spurgeongems.org.

**PRAY FOR CHILDREN
AND SPOUSES
OF PEOPLE IN PRISON.**

REFLECTIONS

Gems gleaned by Jim Robinette

<http://www.actionuganda.net/>

Reflections is a Christian meditation sent by ACTION Uganda Ministries and is meant to encourage and edify.

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Only the gospel can form a plaster to draw out the very core of contention from the heart. The Apostle Paul testifies how he and his brothers were healed of malicious attitudes—“We ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving diverse lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another” (Titus 3:3). And then Paul writes in some detail how that healing came—“But after that the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit” (Titus 3:4-5). He was saying, “If this love of God to us in Christ had not appeared; if we had not been washed by His regenerating Spirit, we would still be paralyzed under the power of our lusts.”

Mortification is a work of the Spirit. “If you, through the Spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body, you shall live” (Rom 8:13). And the gospel is the sacrificing knife in the hand of the Spirit, the “sword” God uses to kill sin in the hearts of His people (Eph 6:17).

Just as the gospel lays the axe to strife, and digs it up by its bitter roots, so it fills the hearts of men who embrace it with principles, leading to peace and unity. Some of these tenets are self-denial, long-suffering, and gentleness. Self-denial prefers that another be honored before himself. Long-suffering is that which makes one not easily provoked. And if gentleness is pushed by a wrong, it holds the door open for peace to come in again.

We can see a whole bundle of these sweet herbs growing in one bed—“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance” (Gal 5:22-23). Now this fruit does not crop up in just every hedge, but only from gospel seed.”—From *The Christian in Complete Armor—Daily Readings in Spiritual Warfare*. Published by Moody Press, Chicago, 1994, First Published in 1655.

GOD IS GOD

One of the most flagrant sins of our age is that of irreverence—the failure to ascribe the glory which is due the august majesty of God. Men limit the power and activities of the Lord in their degrading concepts of His being and character. Originally, man was made in the image and likeness of God, but today we are asked to believe in a god made in the image and likeness of men! The Creator is reduced to the level of the creature—His omniscience is called into question, His omnipotence is no longer believed in, and His absolute sovereignty is flatly denied. Men claim to be the architects of their own fortunes, and the determiners of their own destiny. They know not that their lives are at the disposal of the Divine Despot. They know not they have no more power to thwart His secret decrees than a worm has to resist the tread of an elephant. They know not that, “*The Lord has prepared His throne in the heavens; and His kingdom rules over all*” (Psa 103:19).—A. W. Pink—Gleaned from a Zebulon Baptist Church, Pikeville, KY, weekly Bulletin, Tom Harding, Pastor—taharding@bellsouth.net