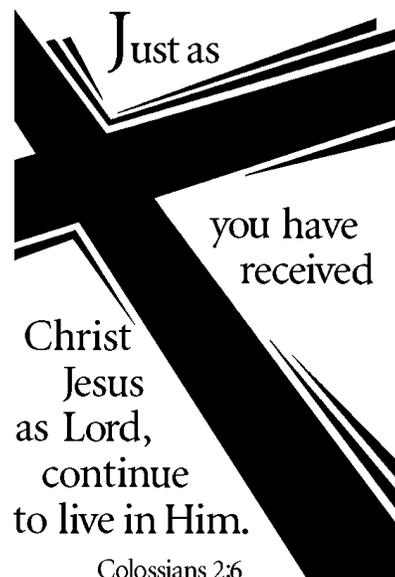


For HIS Glory
Prison Ministry
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Pray for Missionaries and our military personnel overseas.

April, 2019

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

Something to Think About As “Easter” Approaches...

By C. H. Spurgeon

“Why seek you the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke unto you when He was yet in Galilee.”

Luke 24:5, 6.

Those good people to whom the angels said, “He is not here, but is risen!” were bearing a load, and what were they carrying? What is Joanna carrying, and her servants? And Mary, what are they carrying? Why, white linen! And what else? Pounds of spices, the most precious they could buy! What are they going to do? Ah, if an angel could laugh, I should think he must have smiled as he found they were coming to embalm Christ. “Why He is not here, and what is more, He is not dead! He does not need any embalming, He is alive!”

You might have seen all over England on “Good Friday,” and also on this “Easter Sunday,” crowds of people—I have no doubt very sincere people—coming to embalm Christ. They tolled a bell because He was dead, and they hung crepe over what they call their altars because He was dead; and they fasted and sang sad hymns over their dead Savior! I bless the Lord, *my* Redeemer is *not* dead, and I have no bells to toll for Him! He is risen, He is not here! Here they come, crowds of them with their white linen, and their precious spices to wrap a dead Christ up in!

Are they mad? But they say, “we were only acting it over again.” Oh, is that it? Practical charades, is it? Acting the glorious atonement of Calvary as a play! Then I accuse the performers of blasphemy before the throne of the Eternal God who hears my words! I charge them with profanity in daring to rehearse in mimicry that which was once done, and done forever, and is never to be repeated! No, I cannot suppose they meant to mimic the great Sacrifice, and therefore I conclude that they thought their Savior to be dead! And so they said, “Toll the bell for Him! Kneel down and weep before His image on a cross.”

If I believed Jesus Christ died on Good Friday, I would feast all day long because His death is over! As He has ordained the high festival of the Lord’s Supper to be His commemoration, I would follow His bidding, and keep no fast. Who would sit down and whine over a friend once dead if you know him to be restored to life and exalted in power? Why toll a bell for a living friend? However, I condemn not the good people any more than the angels condemned those holy women—only they may take their spices home, and their white linen, too, for Jesus is alive, and does not need them!—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #1106, Volume 19, “*The Lord Is Risen, Indeed*”—Read/download entire sermon at www.spurgeongems.org.

BRETHREN, NO POPE WAS EVER HEAD OF CHRIST'S CHURCH!

By Charles Haddon Spurgeon

Beloved, it is meet that Christ should have no second place in His Church, and certainly no such place has been allotted to Him by the eternal Father. As I can now but speak of the Church of God, at large, I think I am guided for a moment by an evil spirit standing at my left hand, who points with black fingers over to the city of the Seven Hills, and he says to me, "There is one great supreme ruler, the Vicar of God on earth—behold his splendors! See how they bear him through the streets of Rome upon the shoulders of men, with canopies of silk, smothered with jewels, and with peacock and ostrich feathers! Mark how they swing their censers, and how the multitudes fall down before him, for him has God exalted, for him has God glorified."

Ah, but this is a vain and idle boast, for we read not in any page of this Book of any such exaltation to any being! And where will be found the being that shall dare to take it, unless he shall first become the victim of Satan? Satan said to Christ, "All this will I give you if You will fall down and worship me." And he that has it, must have first fallen down and worshipped Satan, or he has no such power among the sons of men!

Now, Beloved, Christ did not redeem His Church with His blood that the Pope might come in and steal away the glory! He never came from heaven to earth, and poured out His very heart that He might purchase His people so that a poor sinner, a mere man, should be set upon high to be admired by all the nations, and to call himself God's representative on earth! Christ has always been the Head of His Church! Why, we have read in history that kings at different times have wished to play the head of the church, and that we owe our Protestantism, as we call it over here—that we owe much of that to the desire of a certain crowned head to become a little Pope over certain dominions! This is very true, but not Henry the Eighth, nor his successor, nor any of those who now live, are more the head of the church than he is God, Himself! It is not possible for any to be head in the Church of Christ, but Jesus! God has exalted Him, and made Him to be the Head over all things—and it is usurping the prerogative of Christ for any to suppose they can be head of the Church of Christ, for Jesus Christ is the Head, and He, alone, holds power over ecclesiastical organizations! Over the sacred mystical, blood-bought, redeemed, regenerated Church of Christ there never can, by any possibility, be any other Head but Jesus Christ, the Lord Himself!

Now mark, *God has exalted the Lord Jesus Christ in the government of His Church.* All authority, all authoritative rules in Zion come through Jesus Christ. All true teaching in Zion comes from His lips. We call no man, master, upon earth, for One is our Master, and that One is Christ! No man is Rabbi in the church, but He is our Rabboni, our Teacher, and all other teachers are thieves and robbers if they teach on their own authority. They only are accepted as the Lord's shepherds, who speak Christ's truth in Christ's name—and in

the power of His own Spirit. God has made Christ to rule supremely throughout His Church, and in this He has glorified Him!

He has made Him the Head of the Church in another respect—*He is the Head of all light in the Church.* There is no true light in the Christian Church, not a single spark of it, but what comes from Christ. All life comes to us from Him. There may be energy in the church of a carnal and fleshly sort—she may have force and power which she derives from men—but this will die and perish, like the grass and the flower of the fields.

Vital godliness always proceeds from Jesus Christ, as the branch's life comes from the vine. "Without Me, you can do nothing, but because I live, you shall live, also." He is the life of men! He quickens whom He will, and it is not possible that there should exist even a grain of spiritual life in any human heart, but that which comes to that heart through Jesus Christ!

He is also *the Head over all things in the Church—all spiritual things.* The Spirit of God resides in Christ without measure—and He sends forth the Spirit—He gives a Comforter to us. "It pleased the Father that in Him should all fullness dwell," and the continuance of the Church, and the growth of the Church, and the edification of the Church—all sorts of beneficial influences which come to the Church—proceed to us through Jesus Christ, the Church's covenanted Head!—Adapted from the *C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Version 1.0, Ages Software.—Sermon #3435, Volume 60—SANCTIFIED SORROW—Read/download the entire sermon, free of charge, at www.spurgeongems.org.

**Jesus Christ is the ONLY
way to God the Father!
Not Mary. Not Mohammed.
Not a future Messiah.
JESUS CHRIST
is the ONLY way!**

**TELL FIVE PEOPLE TODAY—AT
LEAST ONE GUARD—HOW MUCH
YOU LOVE JESUS CHRIST. AND
YOU IN THE FREE WORLD, TELL
A FAMILY MEMBER.**