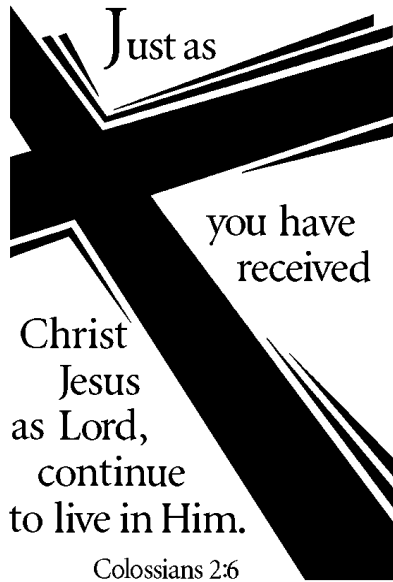


For HIS Glory
Prison Ministry
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Pray for Emmett and Ann.

July, 2019

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

A WEE BIT ON PREDESTINATION

By Charles H. Spurgeon

“Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it: unless the LORD guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so He gives His beloved sleep.

Psalm 127:1, 2.

Dear friends, it is quite true that God saves His people. “Salvation is of the Lord” from first to last, but no man is saved apart from his own believing in the Lord Jesus Christ. That faith is God’s gift, but it is man’s *act*. The Holy Spirit does not believe for us—what should He believe? No man is saved apart from repentance—and repentance is a work of the Spirit of God. But the Spirit of God does not repent—what has He to repent of? It is the man, himself, who must repent and believe. “If you believe not, you shall die in your sins.” “Unless you repent, you shall all likewise perish.” Do not, therefore, any of you, sit still and dream about the predestination of God! Divine predestination is most blessedly true—it is the joy of my spirit—but do not turn it into a pillow for your idle head, and fancy that blessings will come to you when you are not looking for them. “Faith comes by hearing.” Therefore hear most attentively and reverently the Word of God—and drink it in. And “salvation comes by faith.” Therefore, what you hear of God’s Word, believe and accept simply, and with a child-like faith—and so you shall be saved. Do not, I pray you—any of you—fall into the idea that it matters not where you are, or what you do, or how inattentive you are, or how careless you are about the things of God. It does matter! All these things are *sins*—sins for which you shall be called to account!

Oh, that the Spirit of God may lead you to adopt quite another line of conduct! Search the Scriptures, says our Lord, “for in them you think you have eternal life, and they are they which testify of Me.” May you often be found upon your knees, for the Lord hears them that cry unto Him! May you be found confessing your sins, for, “whoso confesses and forsakes them shall have mercy”! May you be found believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, for there is no soul lost that casts itself at the foot of Christ’s cross! Do not, then, misread the text as though, either in common things, or in the loftiest matter, we were to do nothing, and leave everything to God.—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection, Ages Software—Sermon #2559, Volume 44—Co-Workers with God—read/download the entire sermon free of charge at <http://www.spurgeongems.org>*

The Old Man and the New

By John Bradford (1510-1555)

A man that is regenerate and born of God consists of two men, namely the “old man” and the “new man.” So that one man, inasmuch as he is corrupt with the seed of the serpent, is an “old man.” And inasmuch as he is blessed with the seed of God from above, he is a “new man.” Inasmuch as he is an “old man,” he is a sinner, and an enemy to God. So, inasmuch as he is regenerate, he is righteous and holy, and a friend to God, so that he cannot sin. One man, therefore, who is regenerate, may well be called always just, and always sinful—just in respect of God’s seed, and his regeneration—sinful in respect of Satan’s seed, and his first birth.

AND...

By Robert Hawker (1753-1827)

“Whoever is born of God does not commit sin; for His seed remains in him: and he cannot sin because he is born of God.”
(1John 3:9).

What is here said of the seed of Christ, and their inability to commit sin is wholly in reference to their *spiritual* nature. For thus the words express it. *Whoever is born of God, does not commit sin.* The new birth, or being born of God, which is the same thing, is wholly *spiritual*. For the body of flesh remains the same in the Adam-nature of a fallen state. And as it is corrupt and sinful, so its daily tendencies are to corruption. At the Last Day it will arise a glorified body, and though sown in dishonor at death, it will be raised in glory at the resurrection. Whereas the spiritual part of every child of God, when born in God from the Adam-nature, induced by the Fall, being dead in trespasses and sins, is quickened to a new and spiritual life. And, as this Scripture blessedly says, *it cannot sin because it is born of God, and His seed remains in him. It is born not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, which live and abides forever* (1 Peter 1:23). And it is made a *partaker of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust* (2 Peter 1:4).—Gleaned from the Web-Site of Zebulon Baptist Church, Tom Harding, Pastor, 6088 Zebulon Highway, Pikeville, KY, 41501, (606) 631-9053.

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Psalm 119:35

A.W. Pink – May, 1938

It is a very humbling thing to be brought to realize that we must be “made to go” in the path of God’s commandments, yet sooner or later each believer experiences the truth of it. Godly desires, and holy resolutions are not sufficient to produce actual obedience—God has to work in us to *do*, as well as to “will” of His good pleasure. Peter’s resolution was strong when he declared that he would not deny Christ, though all others should do so. Yet in the hour of testing he discovered that he was as weak as water. We are told of Hezekiah that, “God *left him*, to try him, that He might know all that was in his heart” (2 Chron 32:31)—and at times He does this with all His people, that they may discover that without Him they can do *nothing*. When this discovery *is* made, the soul feels the suitability of this prayer, “*Make me walk in the path of Your commandments.*”

NOTABLE QUOTES OF CHARLES H. SPURGEON

“I know that there are seasons when even the very best of God’s servants do not find death the sweetest possible subject for contemplation, but I do not think that any of us who believe in Jesus have the slightest reason to be afraid to die. On the contrary, we may rejoice in it, for our Savior will not leave us in the hour of death.”—1895, Sermon #2444

“A curious fact can be proved by abundant evidence, namely, that the boast of human perfection is closely followed by obscenity and licentiousness!”—1893, Sermon #2326

“There is a great deal in the way in which a man walks in his house. It will not do to be a saint abroad, and a devil at home! There are some of that kind. They are wonderfully sweet at a prayer meeting, but they are dreadfully sour to their wives and children. This will never do! Every genuine believer should say, and mean it, ‘I will walk within my house with a perfect heart.’ It is in the home that we get the truest proof of godliness. ‘What sort of a man is he?’ said one to George Whitefield, and Whitefield answered, ‘I cannot say, for I never lived with him.’ That is the way to test a man—to live with him.”—1894, Sermon #2362