



CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON

TAKING HOLD
OF GOD'S
COVENANT

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**Delivered By
Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892)
Prince of Preachers**

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CHARLES SPURGEON'S CONVERSION

Spurgeon relates the following account of how he became a Christian: "I sometimes think I might have been in darkness and despair until now had it not been for the goodness of God in sending a snowstorm, one Sunday morning, while I was going to a certain place of worship. When I could go no further, I turned down a side street and came to a little Primitive Methodist Chapel.

"In that chapel there may have been a dozen or fourteen people...The minister did not come that morning. He was snowed in, I suppose. At last, a very thin-looking man, a shoemaker, or tailor, or something of that sort, went up into the pulpit to preach...His text was, 'Look unto me, and be you saved, all the ends of the earth.' When he had managed to spin out ten minutes or so, he was at the end of his tether.

"Then he looked at me under the gallery, and I daresay, with so few present, he knew me to be a stranger. Just fixing his eyes on me, as if he knew all my heart, he said, 'Young man, you look miserable.' Well, I did, but I had not been accustomed to have remarks made from the pulpit on my personal appearance before. However, it was a good blow, struck right home...Then lifting up his hand, he shouted, 'Young man, look to Jesus Christ. Look! Look! Look! You have nothing to do but look and live!'

"I saw at once the way of salvation...I looked until I could almost have looked my eyes away...My spirit saw its chains broken to pieces! I felt that I was an emancipated soul, an heir of Heaven, a forgiven one, accepted in Christ Jesus...I had passed from darkness into marvelous light, from death to life. Simply by looking to Jesus, I had been delivered from despair and I was brought into such a joyous state of mind that, now I can say—

***'Ever since by faith I saw the stream
Your wounds supplied for me,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall forever be.'***

And yet, the manifestation of Divine Grace on this never-to-be-forgotten day in the life of C. H. Spurgeon, was not yet complete! No, truly there was more to follow. From glory unto glory were dim leadings of his soul on that memorable Sabbath. In the morning, at the humble Primitive Methodist chapel, he found salvation to the joy of his soul! He possessed the assurance that was realized by a knowledge that there is "life in a look at the Crucified One." But the joy was not yet complete. The experience of full liberty and perfect freedom had yet to be known to be enjoyed.

Says Spurgeon, "In the text, 'Look, look, look,' I found salvation in the morning. In the text, 'Accepted in the Beloved,' preached at the Baptist church in the evening, I found peace and freedom. Yes—

***'It is done, the mighty deed is done,
And from the Father's glorious throne,
The silver trumpet now proclaims,
In sweet, melodious, strains,
A pardon free through Christ the
Savior's bleeding veins.'***

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# ON BAPTISM AND CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

By Charles H. Spurgeon

I speak, now, to you that ought to be members of the Church—who know the Lord and love Him—but have never *confessed* Him. You say, “I shall join the Church when I feel better.” When will that be? Are you any better than you were a year ago? How much better are you going to be before you obey your Lord? I should like to hang up a sort of thermometer so that when you *did* reach the point, you might come out, obey your Lord’s command and join with His Church. Do you need to be perfect and to join with perfect men? If you do, do not come to *this* Church, because I will guarantee you there is not *one* perfect member in it, though there are many of the excellent of the earth in our midst.

We had some perfect Brothers and Sisters once, but they went to their own place after having proved to us that their boasted perfection was very poor stuff. When workers get that proud notion into their heads, they become both useless and unloving. We are sorry to say that we are a company of imperfect men and women—but we shall be very glad to receive you if you love the Lord and are prepared to obey His commands. That is all we require.

Do you want to join a perfect Church? You must die. You will not do it otherwise. And if you *were* to join a perfect Church, I am sure it would not be perfect after you had been admitted into it. You had better give up that idea and just believe what God says about His own Church, “You are My flock, the flock of My pasture, you are men.” Come, then, with us, and we will do you good.

“I am afraid,” says one. Is this like a man? Can we say of such cowards, “You are men”? We cannot give you the good side of the word, surely! But come with us. If you believe that Jesus is the Christ, confess Him! The Gospel message is, “He that believes and *is baptized* shall be saved.” Faith and Baptism are here placed very closely together—do not divide them. “He that with his heart believes, and with his mouth makes confession of Him, shall be saved.” Neglect not one command of Christ—confess your faith at once!

“There is nothing *saving* in Baptism,” you say. Selfish wretch, so you will do nothing except to save your own skin? If you are a saved man, you will loathe such meanness and you will say, “Now, for the love I bear my Master’s name, whatever command He gives to His believing people, I am ready to obey.” God grant you His blessing in so doing, for Christ’s sake. Amen.

—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software, 1.800.297.4307—Sermon #1807, Volume 30—*A Call to the Lord’s Own Flock*—Read/download entire sermon at <http://www.spurgeongems.org>.

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**PRAY THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL USE THIS SERMON
TO BRING MANY
TO A SAVING KNOWLEDGE OF JESUS CHRIST.**

**“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus
for good works, which God prepared beforehand
that we should walk in them.”**

Ephesians 2:10

**“No temptation has overtaken you except such is common to men;
but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted
beyond what you are able, but with the temptation
will also make the way to escape,
that you may be able to bear it.”**

1 Corinthians 10:13

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

(John 14:6)

**“Therefore He (Jesus Christ) is also able to save to the
uttermost those who come to God through Him,
since He always lives to make intercession for them.”**

Hebrews 7:25