



CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON

A PSALMIST'S
QUESTION
AND ANSWER

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**Delivered By
Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892)
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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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# JOSEPH AND NICODEMUS

By Charles Haddon Spurgeon

*“And after this, Joseph of Arimathea being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came, therefore, and took the body of Jesus. And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pounds weight. Then took they the body of Jesus and wound it in linen strips with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury.”*  
*John 19:38-40*

Ah, my Brothers and Sisters, it was a great privilege that was accorded to these two men! I stand and wonder how it was that this position was allotted to two who had kept so long behind the scenes. They had lost—they had lost I cannot tell you how much they had lost—two, perhaps three *years* of constant fellowship with Christ and of instruction from His own dear lips! They had lost incalculably! They were in the rear of all Christ’s disciples—Mary Magdalene was in front of them, the woman that was a sinner was far ahead of them—they were right in the rear rank. Yet their Master, in the splendor of His Grace, gives them this privilege even while He, Himself, lies dead! To them is accorded the high honor of handling His blessed flesh and laying Him in the tomb.

I am afraid that some of you secret Christians who never come out boldly for Christ will not have such an honor as this. If the Lord ever uses you at all, it will be in some sad business such as a funeral—but even that will be an honor to you if you are permitted to attend Him in His death though you have not shared the glory of His life. You lose—oh, you lose incalculable gifts by not acknowledging your discipleship! Yet I pray that there may come a time and that it may come at once, when even *you* will come out and do what you can for your Lord, saying to yourself, “Now is the hour when even I, timid as I am, must acknowledge Him.” When soul murder is in your streets, when heresy is in your pulpits, when apostasy is in your churches, you are unfaithful to the last grain of your spiritual manhood if you who love Christ do not come out boldly on His side and declare that you belong to Him! If you never have confessed Him before men and you neglect this opportunity, wherein there is the greatest and most urgent of need, I fear that you will never acknowledge Him at all.

Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus were both needed for this sad task and though we should never have thought of inviting them to perform it, yet they were the only two men connected with Christ who were exactly fitted for the office. And, as I have said, they thus honored Christ and He thus honored them. I should also say, Brothers and Sisters, that among all the disciples, there were *no more sincere mourners for Christ than these two men*. I think that I hear Joseph fetch a deep sigh and say, “Ah, Nicodemus, how wicked I have been, for I have not been with Christ as I ought to have been! I ought to have gone with Him to prison and to death. Instead of that, I have been among the ungodly, rich and honored.” “Ah,” says Nicodemus, “and I went to Him by night and He talked so sweetly to me, but I have been hiding away ever since. I feel ashamed to touch this blessed blood-stained hand. I realize that it is a high honor to be allowed to handle these dear feet and to wrap the linen all about them, but I do not deserve such an honor, I am sure.” And they would stop and weep, and sigh again, to think of how they had ill-treated their Lord, by what they may have thought was modesty, but which conscience now tells them was nothing else than shameful cowardice!—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software, 1.800.297.4307—Sermon #2390, Volume 40—A Royal Funeral—

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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**