

FOR HIS GLORY

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An honest heart *is impartial*. “Now therefore are we all present before God, to hear *all things* that are commanded you of God” (Acts 10:33). These words of Cornelius were the language of sincerity. How very rare is such a spirit. The average church member wishes to hear only that which agrees with “*our doctrines*” and when he reads the Bible it is through theologically tinted glasses. Here is where so many preachers are handicapped—they are bound by a detailed creed and know that if they departed from it, they would lose their position. Bias, prejudice, sectarian shibboleths quench the spirit of honesty. To desire the Truth for *Truth’s* sake is indeed rare. But an honest heart is impartial, refusing to pick and choose and is not swayed by denominational prejudices. An honest heart values the Divine precepts equally with the promises, appropriates the admonitions and threats as well as the comforting portions of Scripture, acknowledges himself in the wrong and his opponent who has the Truth on his side to be right, and admires and acknowledges the image of Christ when he sees it in one belonging to another denomination—**AWP**

WILL YOU FOLLOW MY MASTER?

By Charles Haddon Spurgeon

“What is that to you? You follow Me.”
John 21:22

I wonder what God would have each of us here do? You may think I am falling into Peter’s error if I press this point upon you. I wonder what there is for us to do as a Church? Do you think, dear Friends, that we are doing all that we ought be do for this neighborhood? We have heard about what our missionaries have been doing in foreign lands and most of us have something to do with that. But I think the principal point for us—What is to be done in Newington? What is to be done for Christ all around this region?

You tract-distributors, are you earnestly attending to your work? You Sunday school teachers, are you faithfully doing your work for God? I will not bid you forget the foreign field, but still, our first concern must be our own class, our own immediate neighborhood. Many of you have come from different parts of London—what are you doing for the district where you live? Every Christian man should first seek the good of those nearest to his own door.

Some of you have come from the country—what are you doing in your own village? You say that you have been hearing a man of God preach the Truth. That is quite right, but is that working for God? There is a young man over there who professes to be a follower of Christ and who often speaks at the debating club. Do you, my Friend, never preach in the street, or teach in the Sunday school? Then I am ashamed of you! Or rather, are you not ashamed of yourself? There is a man over there who is making money. I do not say that he is doing wrong, but my Friend, have you ever consecrated to God the part which belongs to Him? If you keep it for yourself, it will canker all the rest!

I might say to someone here, “You ought to be taking a Bible class for young women.” I might say to others, “You ought to be teaching in the Sunday school. You come here twice on the Lord’s day, but you have no business to come here twice—you ought, once at

(See *Will You?* on page 2)

“Fear Not, You Worm Jacob”

Isaiah 41:10-20

By Don Fortner, Pastor
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THERE IS HOPE FOR WORMS! God’s people are men and women who, by the Grace of God, have been made to know that they are wretched, weak, worthless worms. For us to be called worms, maggots, is to insult those lofty creatures who never sinned against God, and compliment us! Yet, vile, base and disgusting as we are, we take our proper place in the dung-hill before the holy Lord God as worms, knowing that there is hope for worms.

CHRIST BECAME A WORM THAT HE MIGHT SAVE WORMS LIKE WE (PSA 22:6). When the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was made to be sin for us and hung upon the cursed tree as our Substitute, He became a worm so that He might lift worms from the dung heap of fallen humanity and transform us into the sons of God! In ancient times the crimson, or scarlet grub would be crushed to death and its blood used to dye the garments men wore.

The Lord Jesus Christ was
(See *Praise God* on page 4)

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WILL YOU?

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least, to go to work for Christ.” I am pleased with some whose consciences prick them so that they say, “Dear Pastor, do not imagine that we are forsaking you. We would be glad to be here, but we have been down at the lodging-houses, or down in Golden Lane, or over at Bethnal Green.”

That is right and I am glad when I see somebody else in their seats! With four or five thousand members in the Church, if they all come here at each service, where are our converts to come from? Am I to cast the Gospel net into the midst of the fish that are already caught? If you stay away to let a sinner come here in your place and if you are, yourself, seeking to bring sinners to Christ, you are doing two good things! I want everyone of you to be living to do good to your fellow men and seeking to save souls for the Glory of God!

The enemies of the faith are very busy and very earnest—and they seem to use up all their material. The moment a man gets into the Church of Rome, there is sure to be something found for him to do and I want to see all of you used to the utmost of your power. You are free men and women and, therefore, not to be controlled by me. I do not prescribe what you are to do, but cannot you, as independent men and women, obey the sacred dictates of the Spirit of God and each of you drop into your proper place?

Give up all speculating, I beseech you—give up reading books merely for the sake of curiosity, and, in God’s name, get to work for Him! The graves are filling, our cemeteries are filling, and Hell is filling too! Meanwhile, the dupes of Satan are compassing sea and land to do all the mischief that they can. If you really are what you say you are, the servant of Him who wept over Jerusalem—if you are bought with the blood He shed on Calvary’s Cross—I charge you to consecrate yourself, this very hour, to that form of Christian work to which your Master calls you and follow Him through evil report and good report! Follow Him in the path of duty and let nothing turn you aside from your life-work of glorifying God! May God bless you all, for Jesus’ sake! Amen.—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Version 1.0, Ages Software, 1.800.297.4307—Sermon #3057, Volume 53—FOLLOWING CHRIST—Read/download the entire sermon, free of charge, at <http://www.spurgeongems.org>.

PRAY DAILY
FOR
YOUR
PASTOR



Have you spent
time in
**GOD’S
WORD**
today?
HOW MUCH TIME?

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.

A PRAYER

“Lord Jesus, take from us now everything that would hinder the closest communion with God. Any wish or desire that might hamper us in prayer, remove, we pray You. Any memory of either sorrow or care that might hinder the fixing of our affection wholly on our God, take it away now. What have we to do with idols? You have seen and observed us. You know where the difficulty lies. Help us against it and my we not only come boldly into the Holy Place, but into the Holiest of all, where we would not dare to come if our great Lord had not rent the veil, sprinkled the Mercy Seat with His own blood and bid us enter...Come, Holy Spirit, we know You. You have often overshadowed us. Come and take possession of us more fully. Standing now as we feel we are—right up at the Mercy Seat—our very highest prayer is for perfect holiness, complete consecration, entire cleansing from every evil. Take our heart, our head, our hands, our feet, and use us all for You.”—**Charles Spurgeon**

“Blessed are they who mourn.”

This marks the Christian as being unlike the man who is not a Christian and who belongs to the world. The one thing the world tries to shun is mourning. Its whole organization is based on the supposition that that is something to avoid. The philosophy of the world is, “Forget your troubles, turn your back on them, do everything you can not to face them.” The whole organization of life, the pleasure mania, the money, the energy and enthusiasm that are expended in entertaining people are all just an expression of the great aim of the world to get away from this idea of mourning and this spirit of mourning. But the Gospel says, “Happy are they that mourn.” Indeed, they are the only ones who are happy! (See also Luke 6).

This is something which is never found in the world. This is something which is not as evident in the Church, today, as it once was and as it is in the New Testament. An idea has gained currency that if we as Christians are to attract those who are not Christians we must deliberately affect an appearance of brightness and joviality—not something that arises from within, but something which is put on.

I cannot help feeling that the final explanation of the state of the Church today is a defective sense of sin and a defective doctrine of sin. Coupled with that, of course, is a failure to understand the true nature of Christian joy. These things, working together, must produce a superficial kind of person and a very inadequate kind of Christian life. It is not surprising that the Church is failing in her mission if her dual conception of sin and joy are thus defective and inadequate. Conviction must of necessity precede conversion—a real sense of sin must come before there can be true joy of salvation. So many people spend all their lives trying to find this Christian joy. They want joy apart from conviction of sin. But that is impossible. It can never be obtained.—D. M. Lloyd-Jones from *Reflections*, Published by World Publishing, USA, 1994.

CALVINISM: ITS FIRST POINT

By DANIEL E. PARKS

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The foremost theologian of the Reformation of the 1500's was John Calvin (1509-64), the Reformer of Geneva, Switzerland. He systematized the doctrine of salvation earlier defended by Augustine (345-430), inscripturated by Paul the Apostle, and divinely inspired by the Holy Spirit. His doctrine was embraced by fellow-Reformers throughout Europe and the British Isles.

The most noted protest against the doctrine of John Calvin was raised by disciples of Jacobus Arminius, professor in the university at Leiden, the Netherlands, 1603-09. They started their protest, called the Remonstrance, in 1610, one year after Jacobus Arminius' death. Their disagreement with John Calvin's doctrine of predestination was presented to the Dutch Reformed Church's Synod of Dort in 1618-19 in what has come to be called the Five Points of Arminianism:

1. *Free Will or Human Ability*. Fallen man is not totally incapable of saving himself; rather, he can respond to the Gospel call through an act of his own free will.

2. *Conditional Election*. Election to salvation is not an act of God's Grace alone; rather, God's choice is based upon man's choice, as God chose to salvation those whom He foresaw choosing Him of their own free will to be their Savior.

3. *Universal Redemption or General Atonement*. Jesus Christ did not die for the elect alone; rather, He died for all mankind, but only those who of their own free will believe in Him will benefit from His death.

4. *Resistible Grace*. The Holy Spirit is not irresistible in the application of the benefits of Christ's atonement; rather, man is, of his own free will, capable of successfully resisting the work of the Holy Spirit.

5. *Falling from Grace*. Not all the saved will persevere to the end in salvation; rather, some will of their own free will eventually lose their salvation.

The Synod of Dort condemned the Five Points of Arminianism as heresy and affirmed as Scriptural truth all that Arminianism denied. This affirmation of the Synod of Dort is commonly called the Five Points of Calvinism.

We will here consider the first of the five points of Arminianism and of Calvinism (as they are summarized in *The Five Points of Calvinism* by David N. Steele and Curtis C. Thomas).

Arminianism Point #1: Free Will or Human Ability

"Although human nature was seriously affected by the Fall, man has not been left in a state of total spiritual helplessness. God graciously enables every sinner to repent and believe, but He does so in such a manner as not to interfere with man's freedom. Each sinner possesses a free will, and his eternal destiny depends on how he uses it. Man's freedom consists of his ability to choose good over evil in spiritual matters. His will is not enslaved to his sinful nature. The sinner has the power to either cooperate with God's Spirit and be regenerated or resist God's Grace and perish. The lost sinner needs the Spirit's assistance, but he does not have to be regenerated by the Spirit before he can believe, for faith is man's act and precedes the new birth. Faith is the sinner's gift to God and it is man's contribution to salvation."

This first point of Arminianism denies what Holy Scriptures teach regarding the human will and ability in the following respects.

1. Arminianism teaches: "Although human nature was seriously

affected by the Fall, man has not been left in a state of total spiritual helplessness." Holy Scriptures teach otherwise. Man is by nature, that state in which he was born, "dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph 2:1) as the result of his sin and consequent death in Adam, his federal head (Rom 5:12). He is therefore both *blind* and *deaf* to the things of God, and "every intent of the thoughts of his heart are *only evil continually*" (Gen 6:5; 8:21; Eccl 9:3; Jer 17:9; Mark 7:21-23). His "mind is *enmity* against God; for it is not subject to the Law of God, *nor indeed can be*. So, then, those who are in the flesh *cannot please God*" (Rom 8:7f). Consequently, "the natural man does *not* receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; *nor can he know them*" (1 Cor 2:14).

2. Arminianism teaches: "God graciously enables every sinner to repent and believe, but He does so in such a manner as not to interfere with man's freedom." Holy Scriptures teach otherwise. God does not interfere with man's freedom, because man has none (see next point). God does not prevent anyone from repenting and believing, and instead exhorts all to, "Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth" (Isa. 45:22). But as none are of themselves able to repent and believe, He has graciously ascertained that "as many as had been appointed to eternal life [by Him] believed" (Acts 13:48).

3. Arminianism teaches: "Each sinner possesses a free will, and his eternal destiny depends on how he uses it." Holy Scriptures teach otherwise. Man's will is by nature in *bondage* to Satan, "having been taken captive by him to do his will" (2 Tim 2:25). Consequently, he is a "slave of sin" (John 8:34; Rom 6:17, 20; Titus 3:3) and "under the sway of the Wicked One" (1 John 5:19). He has from his birth "walked according to the...prince of the power of the air" (Eph 2:2). And he has done so *willingly*, as such persons are said by Jesus Christ to be "of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you *want* to do" (John 8:44).

4. Arminianism teaches: "Man's freedom consists of his ability to choose good over evil in spiritual matters; his will is not enslaved to his sinful nature." Holy Scriptures teach otherwise. "Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard its spots? Then may you also do good who are accustomed to do evil" (Jer 13:23). "There is *none* who understands; there is *none* who seeks after God...There is *none* who does good, *no, not one*" (Rom 3:11f).

5. Arminianism teaches: "The sinner has the power to either cooperate with God's Spirit and be regenerated or resist God's Grace and perish." Holy Scriptures teach otherwise. No sinner will, of his own will, cooperate with the Holy Spirit because unregenerate men are told, "You *always* resist the Holy Spirit" (Acts 7:51). The sinner, therefore, does not cooperate in his own regeneration by the Holy Spirit and is, instead, totally passive in it. He, therefore, has no more to do with his second birth than he did with his first (John 1:13; 3:3-8). Jesus Christ declared God "gives life to *whom He will*" (John 5:21).

6. Arminianism teaches: "The lost sinner needs the Spirit's assistance, but he does not have to be regenerated by the Spirit before he can believe, for faith is man's act and precedes the new birth."

Holy Scriptures teach otherwise. Life *precedes* faith! The doctrine of Jesus Christ in John 3 accordingly presents regeneration (vv 3-8)

(See *Calvinism's First Point* on page 11)

PRAISE GOD THERE IS HOPE FOR WORMS LIKE YOU AND I!

(Continued from page 1)

crushed to death under the wrath of God and His blood has purged away our sins. It has made the garments of salvation pure and white. He was abased that we might be exalted. He was crushed that we might be blessed. He was made to be sin, a despicable thing, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him, a delight to God! He was crushed to death under the penalty of sin that we might be raised up to life and freed from sin.

Do not refuse to take the name "worm." Being a worm identifies you with the Son of God in His most glorious Character as the sinners' Substitute. There is hope for worms. God promises to help worms. As a worm you may call upon the Lord God to pity you and to help you. Christ came to save worms! Christ died for worms! Christ has mercy on worms!

THOUGH WE ARE BUT WORMS, WE HAVE NO CAUSE TO FEAR. Notice in verse 14 that all three Persons in the Triune Godhead have avowed themselves to help this wretched, weak, worthless worm, Jacob. *"I will help you, says the LORD"*—Jehovah. That is God, our Father, speaking. *"I will help you, says...your Redeemer."* That is God the Son, the Second Person of the blessed Trinity, speaking. *"I will help you, says...the Holy One of Israel."* That is God the Holy Spirit speaking. *"If God is for us, who can be against us?"*

In verses 10-17, the holy Lord God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, makes eleven promises by which He would both remove our fears and encourage us to trust Him. Mark them and lay them to heart.

Are you alone? God says, (1) *"Fear you not; for I am with you,"* not only within reach, but in you! Are you dismayed by the power of your enemies or the great-

ness of your trial? The Lord says, (2) *"Be not dismayed; for I am your God."* Are you weak? Your God says (3) *"I will strengthen you!"* Are you destitute? God says three times, (4) *"I will help you."* Are you about to fall, or already fallen? The Lord says, (5) *"I will uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness!"*

Are your enemies a terror to you? Your God says, (6) He will confound them, bring them to nothing, and slay them, every one (vv 11-12). Are you fearful of failure? The Lord your God says, (7) *"I will hold your right hand"* (v 13). Are you made to weep? (8) *"You shall rejoice in the Lord"* (v 16). He will make you triumphant at last. Are you now abased? (9) *"You shall glory in the Holy One of Israel"* (v 17).

Glory awaits you! You will enter Glory with your Lord. You will enter by His power and by His Grace. You will possess all the inheritance of Glory unto which you were predestinated by God.

Once there, you will glory in the Lord forever! Do the heavens appear to be as brass to you? God says, (10) *"I the Lord will hear them"* (v 17). Does it sometimes seem that God has forsaken you? He has not! He says, (11) *"I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them"* (v 17).

Do you need more? Read Isaiah 43:1-5. Mark the promises of God and realize that though you are a worm, you have a great and mighty God. You have no reason to fear anything or anyone ever!

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SOME INTERESTING TIDBITS ABOUT THE METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE

By Charles H. Spurgeon

What fine preaching was that of John the Baptist! He did no miracle, but all things that he spoke concerning Jesus were true. He spoke of One that was coming after him who was preferred before him, the laces of whose shoes he was not worthy to unloose. He spoke of Him in terms so plain that the Gospel preacher of today, in the full light of the Spirit of God, cannot find better language—"Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world." No wonder that many believed on Jesus there, where the savor of such a ministry lingered in men's minds! The population of the country round about had been saturated with such teaching as this and they had not forgotten, although they might not thoroughly have accepted, what the last of the Prophets had declared in their hearing. The true Elijah that was to come had so spoken as to fix his words in men's memories like well-fastened nails!

Brothers, wherever there has been earnest preaching, we may expect that many will believe in the Lord Jesus Christ before long. Let no faithful preacher's heart be faint within him! Christ is not preached in vain—you have not pointed to the Lamb of God for nothing. Even should you die without seeing it, there will come another after you who will reap a harvest from the Seed which you have sowed. Hidden Truths of God will break out all of a sudden and it shall be said, "Many believed on Him there."

As for the place wherein we stand, I can solemnly assert that I have, with all my heart, preached to you the Gospel of the Grace of God. If a thousand persons were to believe in Jesus this

(See *Metropolitan Tabernacle* on page 5)

**PRAY DAILY
FOR GRACE
TO BE OBEDIENT
TO GOD'S WORD**

ONE, TWO, THREE—NOT THREE, TWO, ONE!

BY CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON

“He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.”

Mark 16:16.

First, let me remind you that our Savior’s words teach us that *Baptism follows faith*—“He who believes and is baptized.” Never neglect the order of things in the Bible! If God puts them one, two, three—do not you put them three, two, one. You never had a servant, I hope, who twisted your orders out of order. Did you ever say to her, “Mary, now go and sweep the parlor, and afterwards take the duster and dust the table, and the shelves and the books”? Did she come to you, some time later, and say, “Madam, I have done as you commanded me. I dusted the table, the shelves and the books, and then I swept the room”? Every good housewife here knows what would happen from turning the orders upside down in that fashion!

Now, a great many in the Christian Church at the present day have put it thus—“He that is baptized and believes.” I am not one of those maidservants. I dare not turn my Master’s orders upside down! You have no right to baptize people till they have believed in Christ as their Savior. Remember how Philip put it to the Ethiopian eunuch when that worthy man said, “See, here is water; what does hinder me to be baptized?” Philip answered, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And if you do not believe with all your heart, you ought not to be baptized—you have no right to this ordinance of Christ unless you are a Christian! “He who believes and is baptized”—that is the Scriptural order. Read the New Testament impartially and you will always find that those who were baptized were Believers. They believed in the Lord Jesus Christ and then they were baptized into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Next, I would have you notice that this matter of *Baptism is often linked with faith*. Over and over again it is put so in the New Testament!

There are passages which I will not quote tonight, in which Baptism has a peculiar prominence given to it in connection with the work of salvation. It might have been put, “He who believes and comes to the Communion Table shall be saved,” but it is not so written. Some churches have exalted what they call, “The Holy Eucharist,” into a very elevated position, indeed—far beyond what Scripture has ever accorded to it—yet the Lord’s Supper has never had given to it in the Word of God the position of being put side by side with faith as Baptism is in this and other passages. I am not going to dwell upon that point, tonight. I merely tell you what is the teaching of the New Testament. You shall give your own account of it if you please, but our appeal is, “to the Law and to the Testimony!”

This much, also, I must say, that *it is not possible that there can be anything saving in the Baptism, itself*. The act of applying water in anyway whatever cannot wash away a single sin! That would be going back to the old Covenant of Works, the old ceremonies of the Mosaic Law. All the washings under the Law—and they were very many—never washed one sin away! Nor can any washing in water take away the sin of any man. Even the tears of Christ are never spoken of as putting away sin—it is His precious *blood*, alone, that cleanses away the sin of men. In my text, while it says, “He who believes and is baptized shall be saved,” yet, when the condemnation is announced, it is simply, “He who *believes not* shall be damned,” and the matter of Baptism is not mentioned, for there are many who believe, but who are not baptized, and who cannot be, as the dying thief, for instance, yet are they assuredly saved. Nevertheless, here stands my text and I cannot alter it, “He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.”

—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software, 1.800.297.4307—Sermon #2339, Volume 39—*Baptism Essential to Obedience*—Read/download entire sermon at <http://www.spurgeongems.org>

Metropolitan Tabernacle

(Continued from page 4)

morning, I would not be in the least surprised, for this I surely can claim, that to the best of my knowledge and ability I have, these many years, preached nothing among you but the Cross of Christ. I, too, have cried, “Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world.” I have endeavored to point out to you Him whose shoe laces I am not worthy to unloose. I have prayed that He might baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Many saints have joined me in that earnest prayer. If at Bethabara many believed on Him there, we may expect that many will believe on Him here!

The next remark about the place is this—it was a spot *where God had borne witness to His Son Jesus*. Jesus had come to be baptized of John and when He was baptized, He came up straightway out of the water—and the heavens were opened and the Spirit descended upon Him like a dove, while a Voice said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” The Holy Spirit is known to go where He has gone before—and where the Father has borne witness to Christ once, we may expect Him to bear witness again! Where Jesus was anointed for His life-work, the spot was hallowed. Where the Divine Voice sounded forth, not through a Prophet, but distinctly out of Heaven, we might look for other displays of God! Where God has spoken, He will speak again!

Has not God spoken to your soul in this Tabernacle? My Brothers and Sisters, has not God often borne witness to His Son in your hearts and consciences in this beloved House of Prayer? Not only has Christ been set forth visibly crucified among you, but the attesting Voice of God’s Holy Spirit has been heard within your spirits, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” Therefore let us hope that of this house it shall be said again and again, “Many believed on Him there!”—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software, 1.800.297.4307—Sermon #1924, Volume 32—*A Cheering Incident at Bethabara*—Read/download entire sermon at <http://www.spurgeongems.org>.

JOHN 3:18

READ IT AND THEN READ JOHN 3:16...

Muslims in Our Pulpits

HAVE WE SHAMED THE FACE OF JESUS?

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[This was used for the first time in January, 2002. I use it, again, because of President Bush's 2008 remarks to a group of Muslim women who visited the White House—he stated he and they “pray to the same God.”—EOD]

It was called the “Congress of the Cults.” Over 4,000 priests, pastors and ministers from all denominations were assembled. They had elected Joseph Stalin as their honorary president. One after another went to the podium proclaiming that Christianity and communism were fundamentally the same. They could coexist. They could “all get along.”

A young Christian woman could bear it no longer. She looked at her husband, a Lutheran pastor, and said, “They are spitting on the face of Jesus. Go wash the shame off His face.” Her husband warned her, “If I speak against the communists, you will no longer have a husband.” The pastor’s wife, Sabina Wurmbrand, simply replied, “I do not wish to have a coward for a husband.”

So Pastor Richard Wurmbrand, a lone voice among the 4,000, went to the microphone. He was well known in Romania, and everyone believed he would go along with the assembly for the sake of “peace.” He didn’t. He spoke only of loyalty to Jesus Christ. He could not “coexist” with any entity that opposed the Great Commission principle.

For his simple protest, Richard paid dearly—as did countless Christians who refused to “bow down” to the ways of communism.

Today we face the same scenario. Jesus is being spit upon in American churches. Christians are selling their soul for a “peaceful coexistence” found in deceit. But who will come forward and wipe away the shame? I cannot take it any longer. How many of our Brothers and Sisters must be beaten, tortured, burned or decapitated before we realize that Christians and Muslims DO NOT serve the same God?

We love the Muslims. Many of our coworkers put aside their own safety to reach them for Christ. We print special literature in their languages. We produce and broadcast special programs into the Middle East. We are willing to give our own lives to win the soul of a single Muslim. But we will never, *never* align ourselves with Islam and its militant teachings. To do so would destroy the very witness many of our Brothers and Sisters are dying for.

Across America pastors and Christian leaders are allowing representatives of the Islamic faith to freely speak in their pulpits. This happened at Willow Creek Community Church, the largest church in America, where a Muslim man named Faisal Hammouda was allowed to share the pulpit. During the interview with Pastor Bill Hybels, Hammouda claimed: “As a matter of fact, we, all of us... believe in Jesus. I believe in Jesus. I believe in Mohammed and all the prophets. So our mission here is to introduce people to God.” He also stated, “We believe in Jesus more than you do, in fact.”

But the Koran says, “O people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians)! Do not exceed the limits in your religion, nor say of Allah aught but the truth. The Messiah ‘Iesa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary), was (no more than) a Messenger of

Allah and His Word.” The Koran also claims that Jesus was never crucified. Muslims do not recognize the Sovereignty of Jesus Christ or His Sacrifice. They do not accept the Cross. So how could this be the same God? (Read 1 John 2:22-23)

Faisal went on to say, “Jihad means striving to improve oneself, striving to change conditions to better conditions, striving against evil.” Even the *Chicago Tribune* noted that laughter could be heard “rolling” through the audience as Hammouda discussed the “true” definition of a “jihad” saying, “It even could refer to a personal holy war to overcome, say, a desire to eat more candy!”

How foolish have we become? Three Sundays after Faisal Hammouda gave his “enlightening” presentation, 16 of your Brothers and Sisters were gunned down in a church in Pakistan. You may blame this on the war against terrorism, but you would be mistaken. If it was against America, why did the gunmen target their own countrymen? If Faisal is right and Islam is “peace-loving” why are our Brothers and Sisters in ALL Islamic-controlled countries facing severe persecution? Unfortunately, in his interview, Pastor Hybels left that question out. This may sound harsh. It isn’t. The treatment that the Body of Christ is facing in Islamic countries is harsh. We feel truly sorry for Willow Creek. In an effort to “love,” they left out the Truth of God.

There is no love in deceit. We are in danger of loving the Muslims to Hell. What will they say before Christ? Will they say, “But we all served the same God. We even spoke in Your churches. When did we persecute You?” God forbid we trade salvation for “safety.” Could Christ have peacefully coexisted with the religious rulers of His time? Could the Apostle Paul have “just gotten along” with the religious and political powers of his time and avoided martyrdom?

Jesus said that if they hated Him, they will hate us. Nevertheless, we are called to be a witness. We are not called to figure out a way to get people to accept us. If you love the Muslims, tell them about the Jesus they so fervently persecute. If you love the Muslims, support those who are willing to lay down their life to be a witness among them (John 15:13). If you want to reach your congregation and help “bridge the gap,” invite Christians who have converted from Islam to speak to your congregation.

The simple fact is Muslims do not “peacefully coexist” with Christians. Faisal Hammouda did not speak for Islam. If he thought he did, he was deceived. Islamic teachings offer no tolerance for those who reject Mohammed for Christ. Read the Koran for yourself. Study Islamic history. Learn the truth about what is happening right now in Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Yemen, Iran, Nigeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Tajikistan and other countries where Islam has a foothold. Remember, less than one percent of the Muslim population in the world lives in America.

If you study Islamic history you will learn that Mohammed traveled to Mecca and offered a peaceful doctrine. But it was not accepted. In fact, he was even persecuted. So he later traveled to Medina where his teachings took on a more hard-line militant form. Once he gained a following, he ruled by force. Now his teachings dominate in many nations. Islam struggles, fights, and even kills for its faith. Once it gains power, its real face is revealed. “Accept Allah and his prophet Mohammed, or die.” This is happening right now in Indonesia where the largest population of Muslims exists.

We challenge Pastor Hybels and other American pastors who

(See *Proclaim Jesus Christ* on page 8)

STUDY OF EPHESIANS

ONE GOD AND FATHER—PART 3

Now we must take up the three phrases in our verse which Paul uses to describe God in His relationship to the Church: “above all, through all, and in you all.” Many have thought that these phrases were speaking in reference to all people and things. Indeed, it is one of the great Truths often repeated in the Bible that God is Sovereign over and sustaining all that He has made. However, those are not the Truths of God being stated in this verse. Here Paul is referring to God as the Father OF THOSE IN THE CHURCH. And it is in regard to those IN THE CHURCH that God is especially “above all, through all, and in you all.”

That God is above all in the Church means that it was God’s idea to have a Church. And why did God choose a people for His name whom He adopted as His very own sons? Ephesians 1:10 answers—“that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in Heaven and which are on earth; in Him.” This is God’s great, overarching plan. He is above all and orchestrating all and bringing all to the great end of reunifying a people for His name under the headship of the Lord Jesus Christ.

That God is through all, I remind you, is not here teaching the fact that God is in and upholding everything He has made. That is indeed a wonderful Truth of God. But what is being said *here* is that God the Father, in a special way, is pervading and active and sustaining His Church. Brethren, let us not forget the awesome power which is at work in us. Let us not forget what Paul prayed for us at the close of the first Chapter when he prayed in Ephesians 1:18-20, “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.”

Most amazing of all, Paul concludes by saying that the “one God and Father” is IN every one of His children. Yes, He said IN YOU if you are a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. This was the great promise of the Lord Jesus, who said in John 14:23, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.” All three members of the Trinity are said to indwell the Believer. Christ is said to dwell in our hearts by faith. The Holy Spirit indwells us as the sons of God. And God the Father makes His abode in His people, who are described as His temple.

How can we contemplate these Truths without being unified? This is what Jesus prayed for in His high priestly prayer in John 17:21-23, “that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

There is nothing greater than this! We are one in God. Oh, may God grant that we would meditate on the unity of the Spirit which has been given to us. And may this lead us to worship and adore God our Father. For “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”—PF

BROTHER SPURGEON PLEADS WITH HIS CONGREGATION IN 1863

I am often afraid lest, with such a Church as this, we should not do what the Church at large and the world expect of us. We number 2300 or more in church fellowship [in the year 1863] but if you are all idle, or if the most of you are idle, it would be better for me to have had a hundred or so of earnest workers! There is nothing one dislikes so much as to be reputed to have what we have not. Why, I read, I should think, in a dozen newspapers, some time back, the information that I receive £1,000 a year from America! I would like to see it! I said, as I read it, “If it had been a thousand pence, I might have been better content then to read it there and know it is not true.” But just that kind of feeling comes over me when people say, “What a church there is there! What a deal they must do for Christ!” Ah, but if you do not, then what a poor man your minister is to

(See Spurgeon Pleads on page 11)

PROCLAIM JESUS CHRIST!

(Continued from page 6)

believe Islam and Christianity can peacefully coexist to visit the Maluku islands of Indonesia or the capital of Islam, Saudi Arabia, where no Christian church is allowed. We ask you to speak with your Brothers and Sisters who secretly worship there. (We have). We invite you to learn the truth, then decide if you will join with them in winning Muslims for Christ or sell your soul for a shroud of peace.

The main issue at stake is the Deity of Christ, not mutual understanding, dialog or feeling good about each other. Any question-and-answer session or dialog where Christ is not clearly presented as the only way (John 14:6) and as the complete Godhead in the flesh (such as Col 1:15-20 and 2:8-10, and 1 John 2:22-23) is blasphemy and a shameful attack on the Cross. Christ described His way as narrow, not an “all faiths club.”

The issue is about access and power, not about negotiating away our Christianity. In Matthew 25:31-32 Jesus proclaimed this path and power as solely His. As a result, in Matthew 26:3-4 the chief priests and scribes consulted that they might kill Him.

Muslims wish to neutralize Jesus for the same reasons the chief priests and scribes did. Some Christian leaders may try to squirm out of this conflict to maintain a politically correct, man-pleasing church. Choose this day whom you will serve. If we begin to present a fuzzy God (such as, “we all worship the same God”), we are opening the doors of Hell to our people, not the door of Heaven.

We may be able to peacefully dialog with a Muslim man in America or in another Western culture. But this is a distorted reality. It is a partial truth at best. And when we present Islam as another truth, we spit on the face of Christ and those who serve His Kingdom in Islamic countries.

We do not hate the Muslims. We hate deception. We do not advocate violence. We advocate love and truth. We desire peace but will not trade it for compromise. We will reach out to Muslims but will not deny the Sovereignty of Christ and the Cross as the only way to salvation! And we will not turn our back on our family members who are suffering and being killed under Islam for their faith and witness in Jesus Christ. Islam is the dominant force trying to eradicate Jesus Christ in their nations and neutralize Him worldwide as another “prophet.” We will not prostitute the Gospel for a politically correct peace. Should any of us do otherwise?

If you find any news articles or sermons endorsing all faiths “serving the same God” in your community, please send this material to us as we take a stand together for Christ. This will help us as we try to gain a better understanding of the American church and how it is addressing Islam. If you or your pastor needs more information about Islam, please call our office. Thank you for standing with our persecuted family.

In Christ and for the martyrs,
Dr. Tom White

**PRAY DAILY FOR OUR BROTHERS
AND SISTERS IN PRISONS.
ASK FATHER TO USE THEM FOR
HIS HONOR AND GLORY.**

TO DIE A BELIEVER

By C. H. Spurgeon

*“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”
Jeremiah 29:11.*

If our Lord does not come and we must be taken home by death, we feel no alarm in looking forward to that expected end. One by one our dear friends go Home from this Church. As I have often told you, there is never a week without some of our number being taken up. Although I have visited a large number of dying Believers, I have never yet visited a member of this Church who has expressed the least fear in their dying moments, or the slightest dismay in the hour of departure. It makes me feel happy to see how the Brothers and Sisters die—they pass away as if they were going to a wedding rather than to a tomb—as if it were the most joyful thing that ever happened to them to have reached their expected end! Doubts are all driven away when you see how Believers die! Divine Grace is given them so that they surmount the weakness of the hour. The Lord Jesus in them triumphs over pain and death!

Our venerable Brother and Elder, Mr. Court, who has just passed away at a great age, looked forward to his departure with peaceful hope. He used to speak of it as of a thing from which he had no shrinking. There was no discontent or murmuring about him—no feverish eagerness to quit the infirmities of this life—but, on the other hand, a happy foresight of his end and a joyful expectation of it. Some of the Lord’s saints have not yet received dying Grace, but then they are not going to die yet. Brethren, saints are prepared to go before they go! Our Lord does not pluck His fruit unwisely. Foolish people may tear the green apples from the tree with a pull and a wrench—and bruise them as they throw them into the basket—but our Lord values His fruit and so He waits until it is quite ripe and then He gathers it tenderly. When He puts forth His hand, the fruit bows down to it and parts from the bough without a strain. When the Believer comes to die, it will not be to an end which he feared, but to an end which he *expected*.

Brothers and Sisters, when death is past, then comes that expected end which shall never end! What will the first five minutes in Heaven be? There is a bigger question—what will thousands of years in Heaven be? What will myriads of ages be? My disembodied spirit will, at the first, be perfectly happy in the embraces of my Lord. But in due time the Resurrection Day will dawn and this body will rise again in

(See *To Die* on page 11)

**PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER
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Letters to Mike Gendron Of Proclaiming the Gospel:

ptg@pro-gospel.org
www.pro-gospel.org

L. W., Leonardtown, MD, writes—I have found each of your newsletters to be a slightly distorted version of what the Catholic Church actually teaches. As you can probably guess, I am a devout Catholic Christian, recognizing that justification has been merited for us by the death of Christ (CCC, para 1992). **Like many Catholics, I unfortunately never studied the Bible as a child.** When I got into high school, however, I joined Young Life and began to study the Bible. I learned that “Scripture Alone” is unscriptural, and that Jesus Christ left us Sacred Tradition to follow as Christians. I have since re-embraced the Catholic faith, and my relationship with Jesus has never been stronger, because He abides in me and I abide in Him through the Eucharist.

Brother Mike answers—The most effective means of deceiving people about theology is to mix truth with error. Few people would believe a statement that is 100% false, but if you hide the error with a veneer of Biblical truth, the lie can be propagated as a revelation from God. The paragraph you cite is a good example. The same paragraph states, “Justification is conferred in Baptism, the sacrament of faith.” Since the sacrament is normally received by 7-day old babies who have no capacity to *believe* the Gospel, it cannot be a sacrament of *faith*. Furthermore, according to Canon 9 of the Council of Trent, anyone who believes solely in the merits of Christ for justification is condemned. “If anyone says that the sinner is justified by faith alone, meaning that nothing else is required to cooperate in order to obtain the grace of justification...let him be anathema.” Regarding your comment on “tradition,” have you considered that all the references to “tradition” in the New Testament fall into two categories? One includes **warnings** that man’s tradition can nullify the Word of God, hold people captive, cause vain worship and a neglect of God’s commandments (Matt 15:6; Mark 7:7-13; Col 2:8-9). There is also a category of Sacred Tradition that Christians are to follow. Please note these are always given **by Apostles** and always presented in the **past tense**, “the tradition which you **were taught**,” (2 Thess 2:15); “which you **have heard**” (2 Tim 2:2) and, “as I **delivered them** to you” (1 Cor 11:2). **Any traditions that crept into your church after the Apostles went to Glory are what Christians are to earnestly contend against** (Jude 3). Some Catholic traditions that nullify the Word of God or hold Catholics captive (which are not found in the New Testament) include priests offering sacrifices for sins, indulgences, purgatory, clergy forbidden to marry, infallible men, salvation dispensed through sacraments, the perpetual virginity and sinlessness of Mary, holy days of obligation, rosaries, scapulas, holy water, crucifixes and statues.

L. S., Van Nuys, CA, writes—After reading your tracts, it’s clear you stand completely opposed to Christ’s teaching and ministry. You have no authority nor have you suffered in the flesh to obtain such. Jesus Christ holds the keys to Heaven and Hell, Mr. Gendron, not you nor anyone else on this earth. Atone for your sins Mr. Gendron. He is watching you and so am I. If you are interested, I would be more than happy to share the Good News with you. Your interpretation of my spiritual condition is not your job nor were you ever given such an authority. You are now counted among the false prophets Christ warned us of—of that I have no doubts.

Brother Mike answers—You are right, I have no authority! It is for this reason I point everyone to the most trustworthy authority on this earth—the Holy Scriptures. As for the keys to Heaven, Jesus passed them on to His church (Matt 16:18; 18:18; John 20:23). The only key that opens the gates of Heaven is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The gates are opened to those who believe the Gospel and remain locked to those who reject the Gospel. Every Christian has been given the great privilege of taking the message of Christ to those who are perishing. Through the power of God in the Gospel we can proclaim “your sins are forgiven” to those who believe! The fact that you asked me to atone for my sins is a clear indication that you have been taught well by your priests but have not understood the Gospel. “No man can by any means redeem his brother, or give to God a ransom for him—For the redemption of his soul is costly, and he should cease trying forever” (Psa 49:7-8). The Lord Jesus Christ has atoned for my sins. Through faith in His blood I have been forgiven completely, reconciled to God for all eternity, redeemed from the bondage of sin and nothing can separate me from Him again (Rom 8:28-39). If you have better news than that, I’d be interested.

J. & C. C., Mariaville, ME, write—We have copied your article, *Why Evangelize if God Has Already Chosen?* to share with those we hope will be convicted by Scripture. I’ve never seen that subject presented so well and so completely God-honoring, leaving no room for man to gloat! Thanks for your obedience. We took these Truths to our pastors and thought they would be ecstatic to learn of the great God we serve. Instead we were put out of teaching and worship and are now looking for a church that will hold up the Bible as the Truth of God.

DO YOU PRAY THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL PREPARE THE HEARTS OF HEARERS BEFORE YOUR PASTOR PREACHES? DO YOU ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO PREPARE YOUR HEART?

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A GENUINE, BORN-AGAIN BELIEVER IN CHRIST

By Walter Sanders
Rehoboth Baptist Church
2501 Turner Way
Arlington, TX 76001

As a genuine, born-again Believer in the Lord Jesus Christ,
I AM, BY HIS GRACE, THE FOLLOWING:

I AM - “*a new creature in Christ*,” and old things have passed away, and “*all things are new and of God*” in my life ([2 Cor 5:17](#)).

I AM - “*separated from the world*,” having responded to God’s call to “*come out from them (worldlings) and be separate*” ([2 Cor 6:14-18](#)).

I AM - “*a stranger and a pilgrim*” here on earth, and my true citizenship is in Heaven ([Heb 11:13](#) / [2 Peter 2:11, 12](#) / [Phil 3:20, 21](#)).

I AM - “*walking by faith; not by sight*,” as I journey along life’s road to Heaven, trusting the Lord and His Word ([2 Cor 5:7](#) / [Rom 1:17](#)).

I AM - “*seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness*,” and expecting God to add all things I need in my life ([Matt 6:33](#) / [Phil 4:19](#)).

I AM - “*setting my affection above*” where Christ sits upon His Throne, and “*when He shall appear*,” I shall be with Him in glory ([Col 3:1-4](#)).

I AM - living by Paul’s principle—“*For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain*” ([Phil 1:21](#)), for it is “*far better to depart and to be with Christ*.”

I AM - careful not to “*love the world, nor the things that are in the world*” ([1 John 2:15](#)), but to “*overcome the world*” by faith ([1 John 4:4](#) / [5:4](#)).

I AM - doing all things “*to the glory of God*” in my life ([1 Cor 10:31](#)).

I AM - loving other Believers “*with a pure heart, fervently*” ([1 Peter 1:22](#)).

I AM - “*letting my light shine*” before a lost world ([Matt 5:16](#)).

I AM - cheerfully and regularly “*giving financially*” to my church, as taught in the Word of God ([2 Cor 8:12-15](#) / [9:6-8](#) / [Luke 6:38](#) / [Acts 20:35](#)).

I AM - looking for “*the glorious appearing*” of my Savior ([Titus 2:13](#)), Who promised to return ([John 14:1-3](#) / [1 Thes 4:16, 17](#) / [Rev 22:12, 20](#)).

PRAY FOR GRACE TO BE HOLY!

TO DIE...

(Continued from page 8)

full glory! Then there will be a re-marriage of soul and body—and we shall be perfected, even as our risen Lord. Oh, the glory of that expected end!

What will it be when our completed manhood shall be introduced to the society of angels, to the presence of cherubim and seraphim? What will it be to see Him whom we have loved so long? What to hear Him say, “Come, you blessed of My Father”? What joy to sit at His right hand! Yesterday my heart was ravished with that text, “They cast their crowns before the Throne.” If ever I am privileged to have a crown at all, how gladly will I lay it down at the feet of my Lord! Is not this your mind? How sweetly will we sing, *Non nobis, Domine!* “Not unto us, O Lord, but unto Your name give glory.”

Brothers and Sisters, what singing it will be when we shall be loosened from the deadening influence of the flesh! How will we praise when we have done with these tongues of clay which hamper us so much! I would speak greatly to my Lord’s praise, but I fail. Strip me of this house of clay and I will sing as sweetly as any of the birds of Paradise that carol forever in the Tree of Life above! Do you not feel a longing to be up and away? Indulge those longings, for thus you will be drawn nearer to the understanding of the text—“to give you an expected end.” All that you are suffering, all that you are enjoying, all that God sends you has this one design—to make you meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light!

Ending this discourse, I would ask you to pledge that you will meet me where Glory dwells, in Emmanuel’s land! We shall soon be with the angels. The Lord is thinking of us and He is expecting us Home. Our Lord Jesus is waiting for His wedding day which is *His* expected end. “My soul, wait you only upon God, for my expectation is from Him.”—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software, 1.800.297.4307—Sermon #1965, Volume 33—*God’s Thoughts of Peace and Our Expected End*—Read/download entire sermon at <http://www.spurgeongems.org>.

SPURGEON PLEADS

(Continued from page 7)

have the reputation of being so rich in the efforts of his people, and then not to have them doing anything! Oh, don’t do that! I know you may say I am not worthy of you, but I pray you, dear Friends, let us try to be worthy of one another! Let us fight side by side for Christ and for His cause! Let us proclaim Christ Crucified upon this neighborhood and let us make men know that there is a Church in London that does pray, that does wrestle with God, that does work, that does give to His cause and that will spend and be spent until the members are willing even to lay down their lives upon the altar of God for the promotion of His Kingdom!

May we all believe in Jesus and so be His friends! “He that believes and is baptized shall be saved,” He says. May we all be led to believe in Jesus and, believing, may we be enlisted on His side—and, being enlisted, may we fight even to the end and so be partakers of His great reward! Amen. —Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Version 1.0, Ages Software, 1.800.297.4307—Sermon #2963, Volume 51—UNMITIGATED PROSPERITY—Read/download the entire sermon, free of charge at <http://www.spurgeons.org>.

CALVINISM’S FIRST POINT

(Continued from page 3)

prior to faith (vv 14-21). And Scriptures declare the saved have been “begotten again *to* a living hope” (1 Peter 1:3).

7. Arminianism teaches: “Faith is the sinner’s gift to God; it is man’s contribution to salvation.” Holy Scriptures teach otherwise. Saving faith is “*not of yourselves; it is the gift of God*, not of works, lest anyone should boast” (Eph. 2:8f). The saved are, therefore, said to have “believed through *grace*” (Acts 18:27) and told “to you it has been *granted* on behalf of Christ...to believe in Him” (Phil 1:29).

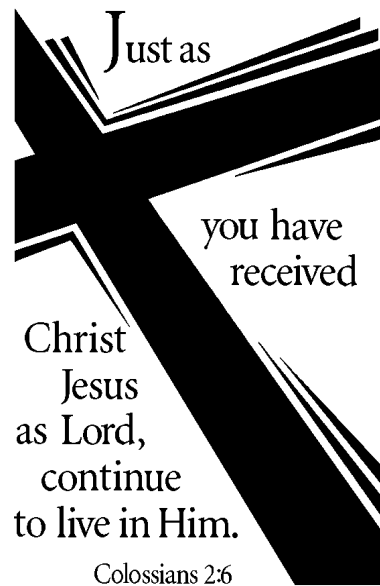
The Synod of Dort therefore rightly condemned this first of the Five Points of Arminianism as heresy, and affirmed as Scriptural truth all that it denied. The synod’s first response was:

Calvinism Point #1: Total Inability or Total Depravity

“Because of the Fall, man is unable of himself to savingly believe the Gospel. The sinner is dead, blind and deaf to the things of God: his heart is deceitful and desperately corrupt. His will is not free, it is in bondage to his evil nature, therefore, he will not—indeed he cannot—choose good over evil in the spiritual realm. Consequently, it takes much more than the Spirit’s *assistance* to bring a sinner to Christ—it takes *regeneration* by which the Spirit makes the sinner alive and gives him a new nature. Faith is not something man contributes to salvation but is of itself a part of God’s gift of salvation—it is God’s gift to the sinner, not the sinner’s gift to God.”

[Lord willing, to be continued next month.]

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



Come to Jesus Christ FOR repentance!

In This Issue...

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

Flashes of Spurgeon's Sword!

"It is no new thing that we should be made a laughingstock to the enemies of the Cross of Christ because we cannot do what we have formerly done and are beaten in the very field where before we have achieved great and notable victories for our Master!"—1896, Sermon #2454

"One thing I know, Christ thinks more of our sins than He does of our righteousness, for He gave Himself for our sins—I never heard that He gave Himself for our righteousness. By His most precious blood, He has put away the sins of all who trust Him. But take care that your self-righteousness does not come in between you and the Savior, for if it does, you will be among the rich whom He will send away empty! Empty your pockets and make yourselves poor! I do not mean in money, but in spirit. Get down to spiritual poverty and beggary, for that is the *only* way to attain to spiritual riches."—1896, Sermon #2482

"It was said, long ago, that it is the highest wisdom for a man to know himself—but I deny that. The first, the highest, the best of all wisdom is for a man to know his God. As for himself, he is but a speck, an atom, a nothing. If he truly attains a knowledge of God, he will afterwards know himself in the best possible way."—1898, Sermon #2571

"They err from the Scriptures who make the Grace of God a reason for doing nothing—it is the reason for doing everything."—1896, Sermon #2455

"I have been sometimes called to book for saying—yet I will venture to say it again—that if I lived in a village, or if I lived in any other place where I knew there was a Baptist or other Dissenting Chapel, before I decided to attend it, I would want to know, first, 'Is the Gospel preached there?' I am not so blindly wedded to any denomination whatever that I should cling to the denomination if it did not cleave to Christ! 'Follow the Lamb wherever He goes.'"—1896, Sermon #2456

"In a free country like this, you may be almost anything that you like except a Christian. There is no liberty for you and you will find that the dogs of Hell will bark at you because you are a stranger and a foreigner in this world!"—1899, Sermon #2612