

**For HIS Glory
Prison Ministry
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Our prayer for you:
¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in
your hearts through faith;
that you, being rooted and
grounded in love,
¹⁸ may be able to compre-
hend with all the saints
what *is* the width and length
and depth and height—
¹⁹ to know the love of
Christ which passes
knowledge; that you may be
filled with all the fullness of
God.
(Eph 3:17-19 NKJV)



Pray for the spouses and children of men and women in prison.

January, 2019

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

ABOUT KNOWING AND BELIEVING

By Charles H. Spurgeon

You may *know a great deal about faith*, but the only saving faith is belief concerning Christ. “I know *whom* I have believed.” To believe doctrine will not save a man. You may hold all the creed, and be orthodox—and then be no better than the devil, for I suppose that the devil is a very sound theologian. He surely knows the truth. He believes, and trembles! But you may know it and *not* tremble—and so you may fall short of one virtue which even the devil possesses!

A firm belief in what is preached to you is well enough in its way, but to believe a doctrine as such cannot save you. Some have a belief in their minister—and I suppose that is so flattering to us that you will hardly expect us to speak against it—but of all vices, it is one most surely to be dreaded because it is so very dangerous! We charge you in the sight of God, always weigh what we have to say to you—and if it is not according to Scripture, cast it away as you cast away refuse! Take nothing merely because we say it! Let nothing that we preach be received upon our *ipse dixit*, but let it be tried and tested by the Word of God, for otherwise you may be led by the blind. And “if the blind lead the blind, they shall both fall into the ditch.”

Ah, what multitudes of persons there are in England who are beginning to get their fellow man to perform their religion for them! They are too lazy to think! They are too idle to use whatever brains they have, and so they get some mere simpleton who thinks that God is pleased with his putting on a white gown, or a blue dress, or a black gown, or green dress, a scarlet gown, or mauve dress—that He is pleased with burning candles in the daylight, and pleased with making a pungent odor in the church—they get such a creature as this to do their religion for them, and then they lie down at night to rest, feeling perfectly satisfied that God is satisfied, and they are all right!

Oh, I charge you, believe not this delusion! It is not believing in a priest that will save you! Believing in the priest may be your ruin, but believing in Christ is the really vital point—the one thing that truly matters! He that believes in Christ is saved! But he that believes in even the Pope of Rome shall find that he believes to his own eternal ruin!—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #3331, Volume 58—KNOWING AND BELIEVING—read/download the entire sermon free of charge at <http://www.spurgeongems.org>



BEWARE OF THE CHRIST OF ARMINIANISM!

By Rev. Steven Houck, DECEASED

The Bible warns us that in the last days in which we live there will be many false Christs—those who claim to be Christ, but who are imposters. Jesus said, “Take heed that no man deceives you. For many shall come in My name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many” (Matt. 24:4-5). We who profess to be Christians must take heed. We must be very careful that we are not deceived. Our calling is to trust, love, and follow the true Christ and Him only. *We may have nothing to do with the false Christs who are so numerous in our day.*

We know about the Christ of the cults and other religions. He is a good man, a prophet, the first creation of God, a great spirit, a divine idea, or even a god himself. But he is not the true and eternal God. He receives his existence from another who is greater than he. He is not the Christ of the Bible. We are not deceived by this Christ. He is a *false Christ*.

We know about the Christ of Roman Catholicism. They profess that He is true God. He suffered and died for the forgiveness of sin. He arose again, ascended into heaven, and is coming again. But he is not a complete Savior. The Christ of the Roman Catholics cannot save sinners *without their own good works, and the intercession of priests*. He is not the Christ of the Bible. We are not deceived by this Christ. He is a *false Christ*.

There is, however, another false Christ who is much more dangerous than the Christ of the cults, and the Christ of Roman Catholicism. He has deceived people for many years, and he continues to deceive millions. This Christ is so dangerous, that, if it were not impossible, he would deceive the very elect (Matt. 24:24). He is the Christ of Arminianism.

This false Christ is extremely dangerous because in many ways he appears to be the true Christ. They say he is true God, equal with the Father and the Holy Spirit. They say that he died on the cross to save sinners. They even say that he saves by his grace alone, without the work of man. This Christ will have nothing to do with the Christ of the cults, and the Christ of Roman Catholicism.

But watch out! Be warned! The Christ of Arminianism is not the Christ of the Bible. Do not be fooled!

The *Christ of Arminianism* loves every individual person in the world, and sincerely desires their salvation. The *Christ of the Bible*—earnestly loves and desires the salvation of only those whom God has unconditionally chosen to salvation. (Psa. 5:5; 7:11; 11:5; Matt. 11:27; John 17:9-10; Acts 2:47; 13:48; Rom. 9:10-13, 21-24; Eph. 1:3-4).

The *Christ of Arminianism* offers salvation to every sinner, and does all in his power to bring them to salvation. His offer and work are often frustrated, for many refuse to come. The *Christ of the Bible* effectually calls to Himself only the elect and sovereignly brings them to salvation. Not one of them will be lost. (Isa. 55:11; John 5:21; 6:37-40; 10:25-30; 17:2; Phil. 2:13).

The *Christ of Arminianism* cannot regenerate and save a sinner who does not choose him with his own “free will.” All men have a “free will” by which they can either accept or reject Christ. That “free will” may not be violated by their Christ. The *Christ of the Bible* sovereignly regenerates the elect sinner apart from his choice, for *without regeneration the spiritually dead sinner cannot choose Christ*. Faith is not man’s contribution to salvation, but the gift of Christ which He sovereignly imparts in regeneration. (John 3:3; 6:44 & 65; 15:16; Acts 11:18; Rom. 9:16; Eph. 2:1; 2:8-10; Phil. 1:29; Heb. 12:2).

The *Christ of Arminianism* died on the cross for every individual person, and thereby made it possible for every person to be save, but his death, apart from the choice of man, was not able to actually save *anyone*—for many for whom he died are lost. The *Christ of the Bible* died for only God’s elect people, and thereby actually obtained salvation for all those for whom He died. His death was a substitutionary satisfaction which actually took away the guilt of His chosen people. (Luke 19:10; John 10:14-15 & 26; Acts 20:28; Rom. 5:10; Eph. 5:25; Heb. 9:12; 1 Peter 3:18).

The *Christ of Arminianism* loses many whom he has “saved” because they do not continue in faith. Even if he does give them “eternal security,” as some say, that security is not based upon his will or work, but the choice which the sinner made when he accepted him. The *Christ of the Bible* preserves His chosen people so that they cannot lose their salvation, but preserves them by the sovereign electing will of God, the power of His death, and the mighty working of His Spirit. (John 5:24; 10:26-29; Rom. 8:29-30; 8:35-39; 1 Peter 1:2-5; Jude 24-25).

As you can see, although the Christ of Arminianism, and the Christ of the Bible may at first seem to be the same, they are very different. One is a *false Christ*. The other is the true Christ. One is weak and helpless. *He bows before the sovereign “free will” of man*. The other is the reigning Lord who wills what He pleases, and sovereignly accomplishes all that He wills.

If you believe and serve the Christ of Arminianism, you must recognize the fact that you do not serve the Christ of the Bible. You have been deceived! Study the Scriptures, and learn of the true Christ. Pray for divine grace to repent and trust the true Christ as your sovereign Lord and Savior.

TELL SOMEONE TODAY HOW MUCH YOU LOVE JESUS CHRIST.