

# FOR HIS GLORY

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There are those who reject Christ because of the fewness of His followers. They like to go where many go, and they say, "Well, but there are so few that go to that place, and I do not wish to be singular." Yet every honest heart must admit that the Truth of God or any truth, for that matter, should never be decided by votes, for as a rule they have been in the minority. If we are to count heads, we must go to the Pope, or the Sultan, or the Brahmin! For my part, I think that a minority of one with Christ is stronger than a majority of fifty millions against Him, for Christ, the Son of God, in His own Person, sums up a total greater than all the multitudes that ever can be against Him!—CHS, 1878.



## THE CROSS OF CHRIST

By Charles H. Spurgeon

Let us view THE STUMBLING BLOCK IN THE WAY OF OUR LORD. It is His Cross, which to Jew and Greek is always a hindrance. As if Isaiah saw Him in a vision, he cries out, "His visage was so marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men."

When He was here, His personal position and condition and appearance were very much against the spread of His Kingdom. He was the son of a carpenter! He wore the smock frock of a peasant! He associated with publicans and sinners. Is He the Son of David? We looked for a great prince! We hoped for another Solomon! Is this He?

Therefore the Jews rejected the meek and lowly Prince of the house of David, and alas, they still persist in their rejection of His claims. Today He has risen from the grave and gone into Glory, but the offense of the Cross has not ceased, for upon His Gospel there remains the image of His marred visage, and therefore men despise it.

The preaching of the Cross is foolishness to many. The

main Doctrine of the Gospel concerns Jesus Crucified—Jesus, the Son of God, put to an ignominious death because for our sakes, He was numbered with the transgressors, and bore the sin of many.

Many will tell you they could believe Christianity if it were not for the Atonement, that is to say, if Jesus will come down from the Cross, modern scoffers will believe in Him, just as the ancient ones tauntingly promised to do.

But of the Gospel we may say that atoning blood is the pledge, and if you leave out the Substitutionary work of Christ, there is no Gospel! It is a body without a soul. This, then, seems to be the impediment to the spread of the Redeemer's Kingdom—He, Himself, with His marred visage—and His Gospel with a visage equally uncomely in the eyes of carnal men.

The practical part of the Gospel is equally a stumbling block to ungodly men, for when men inquire what they must do to be saved, they are told that they must receive the Gospel as little children, that

(See *THE CROSS* on page 7)

## HONOR THE LORD

By Octavius Winslow, 1872

"The Lord says,  
Those who honor Me  
I will honor."  
1 Samuel 2:30

How necessary for our instruction and God's Glory that we should accept His Word just as we find it, and not as interpreted by a fallible church, or as reflected from a human standard. It is perilous to study the Bible in any other light than its own, or to recognize any other interpreter than its Divine Author. Guided by this precept, let us consider the Words of God which suggest our present meditation—"Those who honor Me I will honor."

They were originally spoken to Eli on the occasion of his preferring the sinful indulgence of his sons to the command and Glory of God. By retaining them in the priests' offices, polluted by their iniquity, and scandalized by their sacrilege, Eli had greatly dishonored God. It was on this solemn occasion that He spoke these words—"Those who honor Me I will honor, and those who

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**Study of Ephesians 4:26-27****WHEN IT'S RIGHT, AND WHEN IT'S WRONG TO BE ANGRY—Part 3**

Let us remember that the reason for righteous anger is simply to motivate us to seek God's Glory and to work for the removal of what is wrong and sinful. But it was never intended to produce an angry spirit in a person. That is the sinful anger which this passage and all the rest of Scripture condemns.

Our last point is to consider the danger of what will happen if anger is harbored. Paul shows us in verse 27 what can happen if anger is clung to. After telling us not to let the sun go down upon our wrath he says, "nor give place to the devil." Simply stated, when we harbor and cling to anger, we are opening the door for the devil to gain a stronghold in our lives.

Nothing opens the door for the devil like anger. Just think of the damage that has been done because of people losing control. And think of how the damage done is playing right into the hand of what the devil is trying to accomplish. How many of us wish we had never opened our big mouths when we were angry. Just think of the hurtful and horrible things that we do with our mouths. People are hurt. People are offended. And even where one is able to obtain forgiveness, anger often damages relationships and leaves permanent scars.

And what is especially dangerous about the person who is sinfully angry is that he no longer can reason properly. He is functioning on feeling and not thought at all. The sinfully angry person is more like an animal who naturally operates on instinct and feelings.

And as we well know, another danger of anger is that it reproduces itself. The person who gets angry at others makes others angry. Proverbs 15:1 says, "A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger." The angry person makes those around him angry, and an atmosphere of seeking revenge is created. And of course, the devil loves this, and will do everything he can to keep these evil fires burning so that much damage is done.

Sinful anger always creates pain and confusion. James 1:20 says, "For the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God." Sinful anger can never do any good.

But there is something even more to the words of the Apostle Paul here. There is a reason why he warns us in such solemn terms about the dangers of sinful anger, for when the people of God cling to sinful anger, they are denying the whole essence of the Gospel. In fact, when Believers are sinfully angry they are being the exact opposite of what they claim they are as Christians. For what is the essence of the Gospel but that one has been forgiven by God and now has the ability to forgive others? The Gospel is the great diffuser of anger. One cannot be angry without harboring un-forgiveness; yet the very essence of the Gospel is forgiveness. Just think of God's saving a sinner and what that means. The person is totally undeserving of anything but punishment from God. Not only is he undeserving, but he has also done innumerable things which offend God, and things for which

God could justly send him to Hell forever. But what does God do for that one? He gives him a complete pardon through the blood of Jesus Christ. In spite of pride, rebellion, and ingratitude on the sinner's part, God gives His most precious and only-begotten Son to take his sins upon Him. God loves His enemy and reconciles him through the blood of His Son shed on the Cross.

But that is not the end of the Gospel message. There is more to this wonderful news, for the message of the Gospel not only says that God's anger is removed from the sinner; the Gospel also says that new life is put into the Believer which will now enable him to forgive others in the way he has been forgiven by God. That is why the Lord Jesus teaches His people to pray, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

That is the significance of the account in the gospels which tells us of the woman who came weeping into the Pharisee's house, and wept over Jesus' feet and wiped them with her hair. That is why Jesus told Simon the Pharisee in whose house He was eating, "Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little" (Luke 7:47).

If you can't forgive others who wrong you, it is one of the surest signs that you have never been forgiven yourself. 1 John 4:20 tells us, "If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?"—PF

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## FEEBLE FAITH

By Robert Hawker, 1825

Did the *Apostles* need to pray? Then well may I! Oh, You great Author and Finisher of our faith, I would look up unto You with thankfulness, that You have granted even the smallest portion of faith to so unworthy a creature as I am! Surely, my Soul, it is as great a miracle of Divine Grace that my God and Savior should have kindled belief in your stony heart, amidst all the surrounding obstructions of sin and Satan which lay there, as when miraculous fire from Heaven, in answer to the Prophet's prayer, came down and consumed the wetted sacrifice!

I praise You, my God and King, this day, in the recollection of this unspeakable, unmerited mercy! And though this faith in my heart still is but as a grain of mustard seed; though it is but as a spark in the ocean; though it is but as a drop of dew in comparison with a river, yet, blessed, precious Jesus, still this *is* faith, and it is Your gift!

And is it not a token of Your favor? Is it not an earnest of the Holy Spirit, and a pledge of the promised inheritance?

(See "*Lord, Increase My Faith!*" on page 9)

# HONOR THE LORD

(Continued from page 1)

*despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.*”

The subject is solemn, searching, and instructive. God keep us from Eli’s sin! May His Glory be our first and supreme objective. God is justly jealous of His honor; He would not be God, Righteous and Pure, were He to part with one spark of His Glory. “*My Glory will I not give to another.*” How, then, may I—trusting through Electing Love and Sovereign Grace that I am His adopted child, His chosen servant—best honor Him?

First, *by fully believing in the Divinity of His revealed Word.* In magnifying His Word above His Name, God has demonstrated how closely entwined are His Honor and His Truth. To cast a doubt upon the truth of God’s Word, is to cast the highest dishonor upon God Himself. My Soul, beware of low views of Inspiration, of tampering with the Bible, of quibbling at any revealed Truth of God! But rather, stand in awe of its Divinity, adore its majesty, and bow unquestioningly to its authority! Then will God honor you, by making His Word your Light in darkness, your joy in grief, your strength in service, your hope in despondency and despair. Thus the Gospel you implicitly and fully accept will soothe you in life, support you in death, and be your glory and song through eternity. Thus honoring God in His Word, God will honor you by making that Word the joy and rejoicing of your soul.

I honor God by *trusting Him.* As there is not a more God-dishonoring principle than *unbelief*, so there is not a more God-glorifying Grace than the *faith* that reposes in Him with a child-like and unquestioning confidence—a Faith that trusts His veracity to fulfill, and His Power to perform all that He is pledged in His Covenant and Word to do. My Soul, you are tried, burdened, and in need; *Faith in God!*

Now is the time to bring honor and glory to His great Name by a simple, unhesitating trust in His Power, Faithfulness and Love—to comfort your sorrow, to counsel your perplexity, and to bring you out of trouble with the richest blessing springing from them. Then will your God honor you. The faith that trusts the All-Sufficiency of God, believing that the Promise, though not yet performed, and that the prayer, though not yet answered, still will be, shall be crowned with a full realization of all it needed, all it asked, and all it hoped! God will say, “You have crowned *My Faithfulness* by *trusting Me*, I will now crown *your faith* by *giving* to you.”

Let me honor Christ *by fully accepting His Salvation.* O my Soul, beware of placing your sin, guilt, and unworthiness beyond the limit of Christ’s ability and willingness to save. Oh what dishonor to the Savior—a dishonor with which even devils are not chargeable—to doubt the efficacy of His blood to pardon, and the merit of His Righteousness to justify the very chief of sinners!

Lord, what honor have You put upon me, to ask me to believe—to accept to be saved! What marvelous condescension and Grace that in doing this, You should receive it as an honor done to You at my worthless hands! Blessed Lord, I will trample my own honor in the dust if Yours is but reared upon its utter ruin! Self shall be uncrowned that upon YOUR head the crown may flourish!

# COME TO THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM!

By Charles H. Spurgeon

To you who would know the only true peace and lasting joy, come to the Babe of Bethlehem—in later days the Man of Sorrows—the substitutionary Sacrifice for sinners! Come, you little children, you boys and girls, come! For He, also, was a boy. “The holy Child Jesus” is the children’s Savior and still says, “Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not.”

Come here, you maidens, you who are still in the morning of your beauty and, like Mary, rejoice in God your Savior! The virgin bore Him on her bosom, so come and bear Him in your hearts, saying, “Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given.”

And you, you men in the plenitude of your strength, remember how Joseph cared for Him and watched with reverent solicitude His tender years! Be you to His cause as a father and a helper. Sanctify your strength to His service. And you women advanced in years, you matrons and widows, come like Anna and bless the Lord that you have seen the salvation of Israel! And you gray heads, who like Simeon are ready to depart, come and take the Savior in your arms, adoring Him as your Savior and your All!

You shepherds, you simple-hearted, you who toil for your daily bread, come and adore the Savior! And stand not back you wise men, you who know by experience and who by meditation peer into the deep Truths of God—come, and like the sages of the East, bow low before His Presence—and make it your honor to pay honor to Christ the Lord!

For my own part, the Incarnate God is all my hope and trust. I have seen the world’s religion at the fountain-head, [Brother Spurgeon had just returned from travels which included Rome], and my heart has sickened within me! I come back to preach, by God’s help, yet more earnestly the Gospel, the *simple* Gospel of the Son of Man!

Jesus, my Master, I take You to be mine forever! May all reading this, through the rich Grace of God, be led to do the same and may they all be Yours, great Son of God, in the day of Your appearing, for Your love’s sake. Amen.—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Version 1.0—Sermon #1026, Volume 17—*Joy Born at Bethlehem.*—Read/download this sermon and all 63 volumes of Spurgeon’s sermons at [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org).

**PRAY FOR PRESIDENT OBAMA  
AND HIS STAFF/ADVISORS**

# Letters to Mike Gendron Of Proclaiming the Gospel:

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**Anonymous, Internet, writes:**

Jesus didn't come to write a book, nor did He ever instruct His followers to write anything down. That is why you need the Catholic Church. The teachings of the Popes and Bishops, known as Tradition, are also considered God's Word. The Word of God is not limited only to the written Scripture. Paragraph 97 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture make up a single sacred deposit of the Word of God." You need to come home to Rome for the fullness of truth.

**Brother Mike responds:**

It is very dangerous to add man's words to God's Holy Words. God says when "man's own words" become His Words "you have perverted the words of the living God" (Jer 23:36). We have seen how the Lord stands against such wicked people who deceive others by perverting His Word (Jer 23:19, 20, 31). God "puts an everlasting reproach" on them, "an everlasting humiliation which will not be forgotten" (Jer 23:40). This is the destiny that awaits deceivers and their followers. On Judgment Day, those who stood solidly on the Word of God, rather than the word of man, shall receive everlasting peace!

**Mike S., Journey Home, writes:**

After talking to you on the phone, we are no longer letting people like you go without defending ourselves. We are sending out tapes of Scott Hahn all over the country. He wouldn't even waste his time with people like you. Everything you say is simply your "opinion," hidden behind the notion that it is "biblical." You are absolutely a joke. We are going to continue to expose people like you. Our program *The Journey Home* on EWTN has several inquires from Protestant clergy every week. We've had between 500-600 clergy converts in the last 5 years. The gates of Hell will never prevail against our church. You are one of the most uncharitable people I have ever encountered.

**Brother Mike responds:**

When you lead people away from the faith of the Apostles, you are taking them on a journey into apostasy. Scott Hahn has already wasted his time with me, but he is still one of America's most dangerous apostates. Did you know he departed from "the faith" when he prayed repetitive prayers to Mary and she granted him a "miracle"? Only apostates and unbelievers pray to someone other than God! Jesus said, "Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit" (Matt 15:14).

**Bernadette M., Internet, writes:**

You have been misguided by the father of lies, and are leading others who do not know their faith out of the church founded by the Lord! Jesus, in His most blessed sacrament, is waiting to heal you, Mike, and the pain and anger you have within. You need to let it go and come home. Forget about the money, God will provide. I met you and your wife several years ago at a friend's house. "Stop persecuting me." It took me years to heal from your misguided assault on holiness. I will ask our Blessed Mother to pray for you. You have been deceived by Satan. This is evident by your attack on the Mass and the Holy Eucharist. There is nothing that Satan fears more than the power of the ongoing saving work of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. Your soul is in real danger if you continue to close your heart and lead others in the way you have gone. I'm sorry that you were not shown the beauty and truth of your Catholic faith. God is calling you back. Your ministry is the work of Satan.

**Brother Mike answers:**

Why do you insist the saving work of Christ is ongoing when He declared: "It is finished"? (John 19:30). Those who believe the Mass is a continuation of what brought the final and decisive victory over death and sin, are making Jesus and the Apostles out to be liars (1 Cor 15:54-55). Anytime you affirm one doctrine (the

mass) you deny that which opposes it (the Bible says there are no more offerings for sin). You must repent and believe Jesus and His Word.

**Michelle, Internet, writes:**

I am a convert to Catholicism. I wasn't raised Catholic as you claim to be. I used to believe all the things you currently say on your PTG website. It was only after a lot of thought, prayer and research that I came to see the truth of Catholicism.

**Brother Mike answers:**

By your own words you are a convert to a *religious system*, not to the Lord Jesus Christ. The Catholic religion offers another "Jesus" who is unable to save sinners; Catholicism offers gifts that must be merited, and penance that must be performed to make satisfaction for sin. By researching God's Word, you would have discovered that Jesus put an end to religion; He now offers a *relationship* to those who receive His forgiveness and His Righteousness through faith in His finished work.

**R.S., N. Richland Hills, TX, writes:**

I am grateful that you continue to be both bold and unwavering in holding up the Catholic Church to scrutiny in this day when the mantra of the world, and the professing church is that we be tolerant and uncritical of other religions.

**PRAY DAILY THAT  
OUR FATHER  
WILL PROTECT  
BROTHER MIKE,  
AND USE HIM  
TO DRAW MANY  
ROMAN CATHOLICS  
TO HIS SON,  
JESUS CHRIST.**

## **BOTH ARE WRONG!**

By Charles H. Spurgeon

*“Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us? Then said I, Here am I! Send me.”  
Isaiah 6:8.*

The man sought for is one who will go with ready mind; there would be no need to ask, “who will go?” if a mere slave or machine without a will could be sent. Beloved, the Purpose of God does not violate the free agency, or even the free will of man. Man is saved by the Will of God, but man is *made willing to be so saved*. The fault is not in the hyper-Calvinist that he insists upon Sovereignty, nor in the Arminian that he is so violent for free agency; the fault is in both of them, because they cannot see more Truths of God than one, and do not admit that truth is not the exclusive property of either, for God is a Sovereign, and, at the same time, man is a responsible free agent.

Many among us are perpetually seeking to reconcile Truths of God which probably can never be reconciled except in the Divine Mind. I thank God that I believe many things which I do not even wish to understand. I am weary and sick of arguing and understanding, and misunderstanding. I find it true rest and joy, like a little child, to believe what God has revealed, and to let others do the puzzling and the reasoning. If I could comprehend the whole of Revelation I could scarcely believe it to be Divine; but inasmuch as many of its Doctrines are too deep for me, and the whole scheme is too vast to be reduced to a system, I thank and bless God that He has deigned to display before me a Revelation far exceeding my poor limited abilities.

I believe that every man who has Jesus, has Him as a matter of his own choice; it is true it is *caused* by Divine Grace, but it is there—it is there. Ask any man whether he is a Christian against his will, and he will tell you certainly not, for he loves the Lord and delights in His Law after the inward man. Your people are not led unwillingly to You in chains, O Jesus, but Your people shall be *willing* in the day of Your Power. We willingly choose Christ, because He has from of old chosen us.—(See Sermon #687, Volume 12—MESSENGERS WANTED—read/download, by God’s Grace, all 63 volumes of C. H. Spurgeon sermons, and over 525 Spanish translations free of charge at [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org).)

Let me tell each of you who may be reading this, that I truly love Jesus Christ. But for His Grace, I could not say it, or write it, or *think* it! I have loved Him for such a short time, just 26 years—He has loved me for *eternity*—before the world was created, Jesus Christ loved *me!* How I pray that every person who may be reading this has been loved from before “the foundation of the world” by my Master!—Emmett O’Donnell

## **Preacher, Are You Resting on the Power of Christ In Your Preaching?**

By C. H. Spurgeon

The Lord can as well use the most illiterate man as the most learned, if it so pleases Him. “Go you,” He said, “you fishermen, go and teach all nations.” Carnal reason’s criticism on this is that it is a feeble method to be worked out by feebler instruments! Now let it be noted that the work of preaching the Gospel, which is Christ’s way of using His Power among men, is based only upon *His* having that Power. Listen to some of my Brethren—they say, “You must not preach the Gospel to a dead sinner because the sinner has no power.” Just so, but *our* reason for preaching to him is that *all Power is given unto Jesus*—and He bids us preach the Gospel to every creature!

“But when you tell a sinner to believe, you have not the power to make him believe.” Truly so, nor do we *dream* that we have, for all Power lies in Christ! There is neither in the sinner the power to believe, nor in the preacher power to *make* him believe—all Power is in our Lord! “But do you think,” they ask, “that your persuasions will ever make a man repent and believe?” Certainly not! The Power that leads men to repent and believe does not lie in rhetoric or in reason, or in persuasion, but in Him who says, “All Power is given unto Me in Heaven and in earth.”

I tell you this—if my Lord and Master should bid me go tomorrow to Norwood Cemetery and bid the dead to rise, I would do it with as much pleasure as I now preach the Gospel to this congregation! And I would do it for the same reason which now leads me to urge the unregenerate to repent and be converted, for I regard men as being dead in sin, and yet I tell them to live because my Master commands me do so! That I am right in thus acting is proved by the fact that while I am preaching, sinners *do* live! Blessed be His name, thousands of them have been quickened into life!

Ezekiel had to cry, “You dry bones, live.” What a foolish thing to say! But God justified His servant in it, and an exceedingly great army stood upon their feet in what was once a large morgue! Joshua’s men were bid to blow their trumpets around Jericho—a most absurd thing, to blow a trumpet to fetch city walls down—but they came down for all that! Gideon’s men were told to simply carry lamps within their pitchers, to break their pitchers and stand still, and cry aloud, “The sword of the Lord and of Gideon”—a most ridiculous thing to hope, by this means, to smite the Midianites—but they were smitten! God never sends His servants on a fool’s errand!

It pleases God by the foolishness of *preaching* to accomplish His Divine Purposes—not because of the power of *preaching*, nor the power of the *preacher*, nor any power in those preached *to*—but because “all Power” is given unto Christ “in Heaven and in earth”—and He chooses to work by the teaching of the Word!

(See *Say, Preacher...* on page 6)



**“Reflections” is a Christian meditation sent by Action Uganda Ministries and is meant to instruct, encourage and edify.**

*“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.”*

*Matthew 1:18*

Mary, the mother of our Lord, was pledged to Joseph; a purpose of marriage had been solemnly declared in words that regarded the future, and a promise of it made if God permits. It seems that the marriage was deferred so long after the contract that she appeared to be with child before the time came for the solemnizing of the marriage, though she was pledged before she conceived. It was probably after her return from her cousin Elizabeth, with whom she stayed three months (Luke 1:56), that she was perceived by Joseph to be with child and did not deny it.

Now we may well imagine how difficult and perplexing this situation was to the blessed virgin. She knew the Divine origin of this conception, but how could she prove it? She would be dealt with as a harlot. Never was a daughter of Eve as dignified as the Virgin Mary was, and yet in danger of falling under the charge of one of the worst of crimes. One of the ancients said, “It was better it should be asked, ‘Is not this the son of a carpenter?’ than ‘Is not this the son of a harlot?’” Even so, we do not find that she tormented herself about it; but being conscious of her own innocence; she kept her mind calm and committed her predicament to Him who judges righteously.

From Mary, let us learn what she learned. Although she was highly favored by God with the most awesome responsibility of giving birth to the Messiah, the reproach she would bear and its potential consequences were daunting. After great and high spiritual experiences, we too must expect something or other to humble us—some reproach, some thorn in the flesh, to keep us from becoming proud or puffed up with ourselves. If that happens, we may rest in a good conscience, and cheerfully trust God with the keeping of our good names, having every reason to hope that He will clear up not only our integrity but also our honor, as the sun at noonday.—**Matthew Henry from In His Presence, Compiled by Lance Wubbels, Emerald Books, 1998. Lynnwood, WA**

**We are a Gospel Ministry reaching Uganda and other African countries with the Good News of Salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jim and Kappy Robinette  
with  
Action International Ministries  
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## SAY, PREACHER...

*(Continued from page 5)*

Our business then, is just this; we are to teach, or as the Greek word has it, to *make disciples*. Our business is, each one according to the Divine Grace given, to tell our fellow men the Gospel, and to try and disciple them to Jesus. When they become disciples, our next duty is to give them the sign of discipleship by “baptizing them.” That symbolic burial sets forth their death in Jesus to their former selves, and their resurrection to newness of life through Him.

Baptism enrolls and seals the disciples—and we must not omit or misplace it. When the disciple is enrolled, the missionary is to become the pastor, “teaching them to observe all things whatever I have commanded you.” The disciple is admitted into the school by obeying the Savior’s command as to Baptism—then he goes on to *learn*—and as *he* learns he teaches *others*. He is taught obedience, not to some things, but to *all* things which Christ has commanded. He is put into the Church, not to become a legislator or a deviser of new doctrines and ceremonies, but to believe what Christ tells him, and to do what Christ bids him.

Thus our Lord intends to set up a Kingdom which shall break in pieces every other. Those who know Him are to teach others and so, from one to the other, the wondrous Power which Christ brought from Heaven shall spread from land to land. See, then, my Brothers, your high calling! And see also the support you have in pursuing it! In the front, behold “all Power” going forth from Christ! In the rear, behold the Lord Himself—“Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” If you are enlisted in this army, I charge you be faithful to your great Captain! Do His work carefully in the way which He has prescribed for you, and expect to see His Power displayed to His own Glory!—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #1200, Volume 20—*The Power of the Risen Savior*—Read/download entire sermon at [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org).

**DO YOU SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES TO BE SURE TELEVANGELISTS ARE HONORING JESUS CHRIST? WHY NOT?**

**HAVE YOU PRAYED FOR YOUR FAMILY TODAY?**

# THE CROSS OF CHRIST—A STUMBLING BLOCK

(Continued from page 1)

they must repent of sin and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

These are very humbling precepts for human self-sufficiency! And after they are saved, if they do what they should do, the precepts are not those which commend themselves to proud, hectoring human nature—for they are such as these—“Be kindly affectionate, one to another.” “Forgive one another and forbear one another even as God, for Christ’s sake, has forgiven you.” To the world which loves conquerors and blasts of trumpets, and wreaths of laurel—this kind of teaching has a marred visage and an uncomely form. Then what seems even more humbling, the Lord Jesus Christ, in His prudent dealing not only brings before us an offensive Gospel because of the Doctrine of Atonement and offensive in its practical precepts, but He sends this Gospel among us by men who are neither great nor noble, nor even among the wise of this world!

The proud say, “We would submit ourselves to men of master minds, but we cannot endure these foolish ones! Send us philosophers and orators combined! Let men overcome us by cogent arguments; let them master us by words whose splendor shall dazzle our intellects.” Instead of which, the Lord sends a man who talks humbly, plainly, and perhaps even coarsely. Very simple is what he says—“Believe and live. Christ, in your place, suffered for you. Trust Him.” He says this and little more; is not this the fool’s Gospel? Is it not worthy to be called the foolishness of preaching? Men do not like this. It is an offense to their dignity. They would hear Caesar if he would officiate in his purple, but they cannot endure Peter preaching in his fisherman’s coat!

They will hear a pope in his sumptuous array, or a cardinal in his red hat, and they would not object to listen to a well-trained dialectician of the schools, or an orator from the forum, but they are indignant at the man who disdains the excellence of speech, and styles the wisdom of this world folly! How can the Gospel spread by such means? How, indeed, unless the Lord is with it, using human weakness to display the Power of His Grace? Worse still, if there can be worse, the people who become converted and follow the Savior are generally of the poorer sort and lightly esteemed. “Have any of the *rulers* believed?” is still the question.

With what scorn do your literary men speak of professed Christians! Have you ever seen the sneer upon the face of your “advanced thought” gentleman, and of the far-gone school of infidels, when they speak of the old women and the semi-idiots who listen to the pious platitudes of evangelical Doctrines? They know how to despise us if they know nothing else! But is such scorn worthy of men? It is only another version of the old sneer of the Pharisees when they said, “Do you hear what these say?” and pointed to the boys and the rabble who shouted, “Hosanna, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.” Contempt has always followed at the heels of Jesus, and it always will till the day of His Glory. If the great ones of the earth despise the Lord Jesus, on their own heads be their blood! To Him it is a Glory rather than a

shame that “the poor have the Gospel preached to them.”

He is the people’s Christ whom it was written of old—“I have exalted One chosen out of the people.” He rejoices to be called a Leader and Commander of the people, and He is glad that “the common people hear Him gladly.” But here stands the head and front of the difficulty—the Cross, which is the soul of Christianity—is also its stumbling block.

If any here are offended with Christ because of His Cross, I beg them to dismiss the prejudice. Should it lead any man to doubt the Savior or withhold his heart from Him because He comes with a visage marred with sorrow? If He came to teach us to be unhappy, and to prescribe to us rules for increasing misery, we might be excused if we shunned His teaching, but if He comes bearing the grief, Himself, that we may not bear it, and if those lines of agony were worked in His Countenance because He carried *our* griefs and *our* sorrows, they ought to be to us the most attractive of all beauties!

I reckon that the scar across the warrior’s face which he gained in defending his country, is no disfigurement to him—it is a beauty spot! If my brother had, in saving my life, lost an arm or received a hideous wound, he would be all the more beautiful in my esteem. Certainly I could not shun him on that account. The wounds of Jesus are precious jewels which should charm our eyes; they are eloquent mouths which should win our hearts. Be attracted by Him, all of you! Hide not your faces from Him! Look on Him and live, and love!

That crown of thorns has far more true Glory about it than any crown of gold! Those hands pierced and nailed should be your delight to kiss! Before that once sorrowing Person you should bow with joyful alacrity. Jesus, O marred One, Your Cross, instead of being a stumbling block to us is the Glory of our Faith!

That the Gospel is spoken very plainly, and that God blesses very simple people ought not to offend anybody! Ought it not, rather, to make us hopeful for the conversion of men because God may so largely bless commonplace instruments? Ought the conversion of the poor and the illiterate be an offense to us? It shows a need of humanity! It looks as if pride had dried up the milk of human kindness in us if we can begrudge those who have so little of this present world but the priceless gifts of another.—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #1231, Vol. 21—*The Sure Triumph of the Crucified One*—Read/download entire sermon at [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org).

“A dear Sister who was buried today said when they told her that she could not live another day, ‘Does it not seem wonderful? Is it not a grand thing to know that I am going to see the Lord Jesus Christ today?’ And she lay on her bed saying this to all who came, ‘It seems too good to be true that I should be so near that for which I have longed these many years! I am going, today, to see the King in His beauty!’”

—C. H. Spurgeon, 1896, Sermon #2446, Volume 42

## WILL YOUR HEADSTONE BEAR THIS EPITAPH?

By C. H. Spurgeon

If Christ appears in Heaven for us, let us be glad to appear on earth for Him! He acknowledges us before God and the holy angels—let us not be ashamed to confess Him before men and devils! If Christ pleads with God for men, let us not be backward to plead with men for God! If He, by His intercession, saves us to the uttermost, let us hasten to *serve* Him to the uttermost! If He spends eternity in intercession for us, let us spend our time in intercession for His cause! If He thinks of us, we ought, also, to think of His people, and especially supplicate for His afflicted! If He watches our cases and adapts His prayers to our necessities, let us observe the needs of His people, and plead for them with understanding!

Alas, how soon do men weary of pleading for our Lord! If a whole day is set apart for prayer, and the meeting is not carefully managed, it readily becomes a weariness of the flesh. Prayer Meetings very easily lose their flame and burn low. Shame on these laggard spirits, and this heavy flesh of ours which needs to be pampered with liveliness and brevity, or we go to sleep at our devotions! “Forever” is not too long for Him to plead, and yet an *hour* tries us! On and on and on through all the ages His intercession rises to the Throne of God—and yet we weaken, and our prayers are half dead in a short season!

Look! Moses lets his hands hang down and Amalek is defeating Joshua in the plain! Can we endure to be losing victories and causing the enemy to triumph? If our ministers are unsuccessful; if our laborers for Christ in foreign lands make little headway; if the work of Christ drags—is it not because in the secret place of intercession we have but little strength? The lack of prayer is the weakness of the Church!

If we awakened ourselves to lay hold upon the Covenant Angel, and resolutely cried, “I will not let You go, except You bless me,” we should enrich ourselves and our age! If we used more of the strong reasons which make up the weapon of all-prayer, our victories would not be so few and far between!

Our interceding Lord is hindered for lack of an interceding Church! The King-

dom comes not because so little use is made of the Throne of Grace! Get to your knees, my Brothers and Sisters, for on your knees you conquer! Go to the Mercy Seat and remain there!

What better argument can I use with you than this—JESUS is there—and if you desire His company, you must often resort there. If you want to taste His dearest, sweetest Love, do what HE is doing—union of work will create a new communion of heart. Let us never be absent when praying men meet together!

Let us make a point of frequenting assemblies gathered for prayer, even if we give up other occupations. While we live, let us be, above all things, men and women of prayer! And when we die, if nothing else can be said of us, may men give us this epitaph, which is also our Lord’s memorial—“He made intercession for the transgressors.” Amen.—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Sermon #1385, Volume 23—*Jesus Interceding for Transgressors*—Read/download entire sermon at [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org).

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TO BE  
HOLY**

**PRAY DAILY FOR  
PERSECUTED  
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## Final Perseverance of the Saints

By Augustus Toplady (1740-1778)

“I say unto you that likewise joy shall be in Heaven over one sinner who repents” (Luke 15:7). Such exalted hosannas would not resound on these occasions among the inhabitants of the skies *if the Doctrine of Final Perseverance were untrue*. Tell me, you seraphs of light; tell me, you spirits of Elect men made perfect in Glory, why this exuberance of holy rapture on the real recovery of a sinner to God?

Is it because you know assuredly that every true conversion is (1) a certain proof that the person converted is one of the Elect number, and (2) that he shall be Infallibly preserved and brought to that very region of blessedness into which you, yourselves are come?

The contrary belief would silence your harps, and chill your praises! If it is uncertain whether the person who is regenerated today may ultimately reign with you in Heaven, or take up his eternal abode among apostate spirits in Hell, your rejoicing is too optimistic, and your praises too presumptuous! You should suspend your songs until he actually arrives among you and not give thanks for his conversion until he has persevered unto Glorification.”

**DO YOU HIDE  
GOD’S WORD  
IN YOUR HEART?**

**PRAYED FOR YOUR  
CHAPLAIN/PASTOR TODAY?**

## HAVE YOU SEEN CHRIST?

By Ferrell Griswold

My dear Friends, have you seen Christ? Have you come to Him? Have you fled to Him for refuge? Have you laid hold upon Him as alone having the words of Eternal Life? Salvation is in a Person and not in a Doctrine, Church, or the works and will of the flesh! Salvation is to know Christ, to be in union with Him, to have His Righteousness upon your record, to be seen in Him as complete!

If you have Christ, you have life! If you have missed Christ, you are condemned! To miss saving faith is to miss union with Christ! To miss union with Christ is to miss spiritual life! To miss spiritual life is to rest under the condemnation of the Law of God. I say you must see Christ! You must come to Him alone! You must flee to Him alone! You must lay hold upon Him alone!

But you cannot do this within yourself! You neither have the ability nor the willingness to come to Him. You do not have the eyes to see Him; you do not have the life and energy to flee to Him; this is His work within you! But here is hope—if you now feel your heart drawn toward Him, and you desire to know Him—and it is the cry of your heart to be possessed of Him, this is *His* work and *not* the work of your hard heart!

Do not despise these workings of Divine Grace, no matter how difficult they are on the flesh. Throw yourself upon the mercy of Christ as a Hell-deserving sinner—and if you perish—do so lying at the foot of the Cross!—Gleaned from the internet.

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### “Lord, Increase My Faith!”

(Continued from page 2)

Babes in faith, as well as strong in the Lord, are equally Yours—for it is said that, “as many as were ordained to eternal life believed” (Acts 13:48). “And to as many as believed, You gave power to become the sons of God.”

So it is by Yourself, blessed Redeemer, and not by the strength or weakness of the faith of Your people, their Justification before God the Father is secured! Precious is the Scripture which tells us that by You all who believe, whether great faith or little faith—“all who believe are justified from all things” (Acts 13:39).

But, my Soul, while the consciousness of your possessing the smallest evidences of faith in your Beloved gives you unspeakable joy, do you not blush to think what ungrateful returns you are making to your Redeemer in the littleness of your faith in such a God and Savior?

Why is it that your affections are so warm in a thousand lesser things, but so cold toward Christ? Why is it that you so often hear His Holy Word as though you do not hear? Why is it the Ordinances of Jesus’ house, the Promises of His Scriptures, the visits of His Grace—why do these pass, again and again before you, and you remain so cold and lifeless in your affections? Why is it that the temptations of Satan, the corruptions of your heart, and the allurements of the world gain any

## OH THAT IT MAY BE!

By C. H. Spurgeon

“Where is He who is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East, and have come to worship Him.”

Matthew 2:2.

Some years ago there was a young man who, upon such a morning as this—cold, snowy, dark—entered a House of Prayer, as you have done today. I thought, as I came here, this morning, of that young man. I said to myself, “This morning is so very forbidding that I shall have a very small congregation, but perhaps among them there will be one like that young man.”

To be honest with you, it comforted me to think that the morning when God blessed *my soul*, the preacher had a very small congregation, and it was cold and bitter, and therefore I said to myself this morning, “Why should not I go up merrily to my task, and preach if there should only be a dozen there, for Jesus may intend to reveal Himself to someone as He did to me, and that someone may be a soul-winner, and the means of the Salvation of tens of thousands in years to come?”

I wonder if that will occur to that young man over there, for I trust he has the inquiry of the wise men upon his lips? I trust he will not quench those desires which now burn within him, but rather may the spark be fanned to a flame, and may this day witness his decision for Jesus! Oh, has the Lord looked on that young woman, or on that dear child, or on yonder aged man? I know not who it may be, but I shall indeed bless God this morning if the cry may be heard from many a lip, “Sir, what must I do to be saved? Where is He who is born King of the Jews?”—(Adapted from Sermon #967, Volume 16—THE SAGES, THE STAR, AND THE SAVIOR—by the Grace of God, for all 63 volumes of C. H. Spurgeon sermons in Modern English, and more than 525 Spanish translations, visit: [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org))

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influence upon you?

Why is it that you are so anxious about things that perish—about *anything*, about *nothing* deserving to be called interesting? Why are you so seldom at the court of the Heavenly King, where you ought to be found daily, hourly? And why, under trials, or the need of answers at the Mercy Seat, are you so fretful, impatient and misgiving?

Why all these, and numberless other evils, but from the *weakness* and *littleness* of your love to Christ, your trust in Christ, your dependence upon Christ, and your communion with Christ? All, all arise out of this one sad cause, my Soul—your *unbelief*.

Jesus, Master, look upon me! Put the cry with earnestness within my heart, that I may unceasingly, with the Apostle’s prayer, be sending forth this as the first and greatest petition of my whole soul—“Lord, increase my faith!”

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# BEWARE OF THE CHRIST OF ARMINIANISM!

By Rev. Steven Houck

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 deceive 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!

**ONE**—*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).

**TWO**—*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).

**THREE**—*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 can not 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).

**FOUR**—*The Christ of Arminianism* died on the cross for every individual person, and thereby made it possible for every person to be saved. 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).

**FIVE**—*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.

[Rev. Steven Houck is Pastor of Peace Protestant Reformed Church, P.O. Box 5634, Lansing, IL 60438.]

**PRAY FOR CHILDREN AND SPOUSES  
OF PEOPLE IN PRISON.**

**PRAY FOR OUR  
MILITARY PERSONNEL.**

## Sinful But Not Sinning:

### The Relationship of the Believer and Sin As Presented in the First Epistle of John the Apostle

By Daniel E. Parks, Pastor

Redeemer Baptist Church, 74 Cane Carlton,  
Frederiksted, Virgin Islands, 00840 USA

Some very interesting statements are made regarding the relationship of Believers to sin in the First Epistle of John the Apostle.

Some say these statements are contradictory. For example, they say John contradicts himself when he says we have certainly sinned (1:10) but later says the regenerate person neither does nor can sin (3:6, 9; 5:18).

Others say some of these statements are not to be taken at face value. For example, they may say, "It is true that John says the regenerate person neither does nor can sin, but what he *means* is ..."—then they give us an interpretation fitting their doctrine.

I am of those who say that John—and the Holy Spirit who directed his quill on the parchment (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21)—say what they mean, and mean what they say. These statements may appear to be paradoxical when read together, but each is true in the very words with which it is written, and none contradicts another.

I am not surprised that unbelievers do not understand these Truths, nor that the wicked cavil against them. But they should not be surprised that these statements, both individually and collectively, make perfect sense to Believers who confess that "we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding" (5:20).

Here is what Believers understand regarding John's Doctrine of the relationship of the believer and sin.

**I. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us"** (1:8). This "sin" is not a *deed committed* (as in vv 9, 10), but rather an *item possessed*. More specifically, it may be the guilt of sin imputed to all in consequence of their fall in their father Adam (Rom 5:12ff), the sinful nature with which we were naturally born (Eph 2:1-3), and the guilt of our own personal sins. The only man who has no such sin is the God-Man Jesus Christ. Of Him alone can it be said "in Him there is no sin" (1 John 3:5), "He knew no sin" (2 Cor 5:21), He was "without sin" (Heb 4:15). When any other person declares he himself has no sin, he has deluded himself into considering himself sinlessly perfect, perhaps through his own merit and virtue. Furthermore, he is devoid of the Truth, and Christ the Truth does not reside in Him.

**II. "If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"** (1:9). To "confess our sins" is to admit that we have violated God's Holy Law and to beseech Him to remove from us the guilt of them (as in Psalm 51:1-4). When we do so, God will "forgive us our sins and...cleanse us from all unrighteousness" through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Christ in His death paid the penalty for those sins, thereby obtaining our Justification (see Isaiah 53:11). And Christ's blood continues to cleanse us from their filth and pollution (see v 7). Because God is "faithful and just," not only does He fulfill His Promise to forgive and cleanse the confessing sinner, but He also ascertains that no one for whom Christ died will perish unforgiven and uncleansed.

**III. "If we say that we have not sinned, we make [God] a liar, and His Word is not in us"** (1:10). God's Word declares that "there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin" (Eccl 7:20). But in this verse is a man who dares reply to God, "You are a liar, for I have never sinned. I therefore am equal to God the sinless One!" Such a fool is devoid of "God's Word", especially Christ the Incarnate Word (John 1:1-4, 14).

**IV. "... you may not sin"** (2:1a). Although God has forgiven the sins of His people and cleansed them from their sins, they have no license to sin. "Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?" (Rom 6:1f).

**V. "... if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous"** (2:1b). All men sin (Rom 3:23). However, some dare to stand before God the Judge and boast, "You are a liar, for I have no sin and have not sinned" (1:8, 10). And the religionist boasts, "I trust in myself to make myself righteous, and boast of my righteous deeds" (as in Luke 18:9-12). But when the Christian sins, he has an Advocate to represent Him before God the Judge. This Advocate is "Jesus Christ the Righteous" and "Jehovah Our Righteousness" (Jer 23:6).

**VI. "And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins ..."** (2:2). This "propitiation for our sins" is the atoning Sacrifice that covers sins, thereby hiding them from God's eye, and appeasing His wrath against them, and causing Him to be merciful to the sinner (as in Luke 18:13f). The only "propitiation" acceptable to God is "Jesus Christ the Righteous." And all for whom He is the propitiation are saved from their sins by God.

**VII. "Whoever abides in [Christ] does not sin"** (3:6a). Some say this verse must not be taken at face value. They further say it means only that the Christian does not sin *habitually* or *deliberately*. However, and sadly, Christians do indeed at times sin both deliberately and habitually. (Can you identify a Christian who denies this has never happened to him)? Nevertheless, no Christian sins as he "abides in Christ"—for "in Him there is no sin" (1 John 3:5). Rather, the Christian sins when he strays from Christ, for which reason he must return to Christ for forgiveness (Jer 3:12, 22).

**VIII. "...Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him"** (3:6b). That man is not the believer in Christ, for the Christian has both "seen Him" and "known Him." Rather, that man is the man who refuses to come to Christ for forgiveness, and never "abides in Christ," and consequently "has neither seen Him nor known Him."

(Lord willing, continued next month).

**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).**

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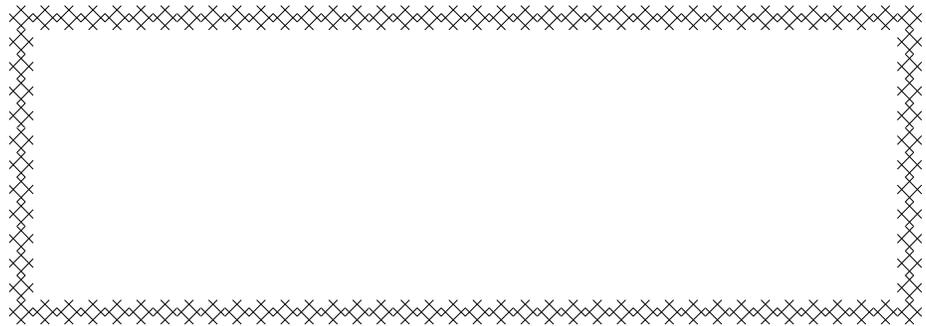
**Our prayer for you:**

<sup>17</sup> that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

<sup>18</sup> may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height—

<sup>19</sup> 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 daily for Pastor Curt Daniel of Faith Bible Church in Springfield, IL.  
You can visit his site at <http://faithbibleonline.net/index/html>

**In This Issue...**

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

## **WOE BE TO ANTICHRIST IDOLS!**

By C. H. Spurgeon

I do not know when my grief has been more stirred for my Lord and Master than when brought actually to see the superstition by which our holy Faith is travestied, and His blessed name blasphemed! Turning from skepticism, where He is wounded in the house of His enemies, you come to superstition where He is wounded in the house of His professed friends—and what wounds they are! I have felt, sometimes, as if I could tear down the baby image held in the Virgin's hands when I have seen men and women prostrate before it!

What? O you sons of Antichrist, could you not make an idol, like the Egyptians, out of your cats and dogs, or find your gods in your gardens? Could you not make a golden calf, as Israel did in the wilderness, or borrow the fantastic shapes of India's deities? Could nothing content you till the image of the Holy Child Jesus should be made into an idol, and Christ lifted up upon the Cross should be set up as an image for men to bow before? The idolatry which worships the image of the devil is less blasphemous than that which worships the image of Christ! It is an awful sacrilege to make the Holy Jesus appear to be an accomplice in the violation of the Divine Commandment—yes, and to turn that blessed memorial of death into an idolatrous rite in which Divine honors are given to a piece of bread!

Was there ever sin like this sin? O innocent Savior, it is grief indeed, to think that You should be set up in the idol temple, among "saints," and that men should think that they are honoring Your Father by breaking His First and Second Commandments! This must be to our Lord the most loathsome of all things under Heaven! How does He, in patience, bear it? Let not His people behold it without a mourning like the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of Megiddon, because our blessed Christ is so blasphemed by Antichrist that the image of the Incarnate Son of God is set up as an object of idolatrous worship!

—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #1362, Vol. 23—*Mourning for Christ*—Read/download entire sermon at [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org).