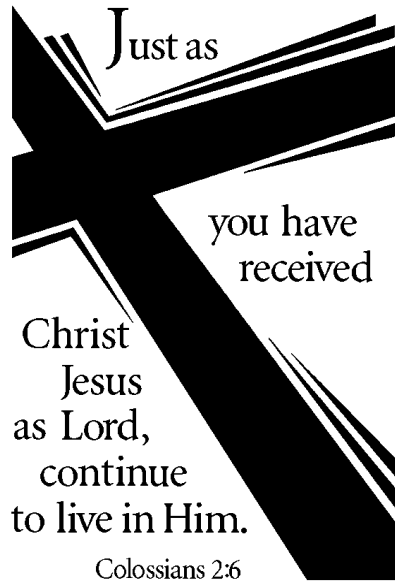


For HIS Glory

Prison Ministry

Emmett and Ann O'Donnell



Pray His will be done.

JUNE, 2017

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

DOES THIS MEAN I CAN NO LONGER TRUST THE “VIRGIN OF THE TORTILLA”?

By C. H. Spurgeon

The Apostle Peter, after he has described Christ upon the mount as manifesting Himself to His servants in the transfiguration, declares, “We have a more sure word of prophecy.” What? More sure than the transfiguration? Yes, more sure, even, than the evidence of their eyes when they saw their Lord glorified upon the holy mountain! If you have ever been upon the mountain with Christ, and if you have seen all His brightness, you are still not to compare, even, the sight of your eyes when they see the best and brightest that they can see, with the word of testimony which must be sure—the light of God that shines in a dark place! All the heavenly experiences which we have ever had are not to be trusted in comparison with the word of God!

I say it advisedly—even the sweetest communion we have ever had with Christ may, after all, be suspect, and indeed, it is upon such ripe fruit that Satan soon sets his hand that he may rob us of its savor, if possible, for he is not slow to cast doubts upon the holiest joys of God’s elect. There may come a time when we shall fear that we were carried away by excitement, or deluded by fanaticism, but He who speaks the Word of Scripture cannot lie! And when His Spirit speaks that same truth of God into the soul, we have, therein, a testimony which never can be doubted, but must be accepted over the head of everything. “Let God be true, and every man a liar”—*ourselves* and all—all liars as compared with the eternal truths of the revelation of God the Holy Spirit!—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #1559, Volume 26—*Tokens for Good*—Read/download entire sermon at <http://www.spurgeongems.org> .

BUT WHY DID YOU SEEK HIM?

By C. H. Spurgeon

“They shall praise the Lord that seek Him.”

Psalm 22:26

Brothers and sisters, *we see cause for praise in the very fact that we ever sought the Lord at all.* Think what it was which made us seek Him—what but sovereign grace? What wet our eyes with the first tears of repentance? What fetched from our soul the first sigh of desire after Christ? What, I say, but GRACE?

And from where came that grace but from His eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus before the world was? And from where that purpose but from His divine sovereignty, even as it is written, “I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion”?

Therefore let us glorify His holy name, and think not of works or merits, or anything in man that could have won for us the love of the Most High! Boasting is excluded, but praise is secured! Give all the praise to His holy name forever and forever, and let the text stand true in your case, “They shall praise the Lord that seek Him.”

Our final thought on this shall be, if these things are so, let us praise the Lord, even we who have sought Him! If our poor friends, the seekers, are soon to bless His name, let us show them the way! We sought, and we found—let us magnify the Lord at once!

Do you think we praise our heavenly Father half enough? Do we not rob Him of His glory by getting down in the dumps, and giving way to care, and perhaps to murmuring? This is not the right spirit for a Christian! Where there is so much undeserved mercy, there ought to be more grateful joy! Do you think we are demonstrative enough in our praise? I am sure we are not! Few around us would ever *dream* that we were half as favored as we are!

Do we sing one-tenth as much as Christians ought to sing? We hum over a tune, now and then, very quietly, but we are terribly afraid of being heard and of annoying people. I do not find the giddy world much afraid of annoying us with *their* songs—do they not wake us up at night with their lewd discords?

If we were half as earnest as we ought to be, we should sometimes, at least, make the streets ring with the praises of God! It would be well to be a little indiscreet occasionally, and now and then provoke the charge of fanaticism—for this would be a proof of earnest sincerity!

Once, at least, in our lives we should let our Lord ride through the streets, again, in public triumph amid our own most hearty enthusiasm till Pharisees rebuke us, and say, “Do you hear what these say?”—“*Oh, for this love let rocks and hills, their lasting silence break! And all harmonious human tongues, their Savior’s praises speak.*”

Yes, and all inharmonious tongues, too! Let all creatures that have breath praise the Lord—“*Yes we will praise You, dearest Lord, our souls are all on flame. Hosanna round the spacious earth to Your adored name!*”

May the Lord set our hearts on fire! May we be full of exulting praise, marching on with hosannas and hallelujahs, magnifying, praising, and extolling the Lord whom we sought in the hour of trouble, and whom we found in the day of His grace!

—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #1312, Volume 22—*Good News for Seekers*—Read/download entire sermon at

www.spurgeongems.org.

SOME DEEP THOUGHTS

By C. H. Spurgeon

How sweet it is to feel the touch of the humanity of Christ WHEN WE ARE HUMBLED IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD. I know not, brethren, whether you are often favored to behold the shining of the divine glory, and to feel the warmth of it in your own soul. This I know—if you are, you find it a wearing and breaking joy! If we had more of it, it might be a destroying delight, for “even our God is a consuming fire,” and when we come nearest to Him, and best understand that He is love, the glory of that love overcomes us! We cannot eat much honey, neither can we endure much sensible enjoyment of the divine glory—I mean much *comparatively*, for, of course, it is much to us, but it is not much compared with what He could reveal if we were able to endure it!

I wonder what we should have done if we had known so much of God, and had not known Christ! I suppose I am speaking paradoxically, and saying what I should not say, for we never could have known God, except in Jesus Christ, in such a way as we do know Him. But if such a thing had been possible, it must have been destructive to us. But now, God in Jesus Christ, how blessed! God *out* of Christ, we know nothing of, nor need we. Luther used to say, “I will have nothing to do with an absolute God.” Beware of attempting to deal with God apart from the Mediator, for no man comes unto the Father but through His Son, Christ Jesus. Thus have we felt the touch of the human hand strengthening us when we have fallen prostrate under a deep sense of the Glory of God.—Adapted from *The C.H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software.—Sermon #1295, Volume 22—*Our Lord’s Humanity a Sweet Source of Comfort*—Read/download entire sermon on www.spurgeongems.org.