



**EFFECTUAL
CALLING**
(IRRESISTIBLE GRACE)
I of "TULIP" SET (4 Of 7)

Delivered By
Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892)
Prince of Preachers

PRINTED
In Modern English

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CHARLES SPURGEON'S CONVERSION

Spurgeon relates the following account of how he became a Christian: "I sometimes think I might have been in darkness and despair until now had it not been for the goodness of God in sending a snowstorm, one Sunday morning, while I was going to a certain place of worship. When I could go no further, I turned down a side street and came to a little Primitive Methodist Chapel.

"In that chapel there may have been a dozen or fourteen people...The minister did not come that morning. He was snowed in, I suppose. At last, a very thin-looking man, a shoemaker, or tailor, or something of that sort, went up into the pulpit to preach...His text was, 'Look unto me, and be you saved, all the ends of the earth.' When he had managed to spin out ten minutes or so, he was at the end of his tether.

"Then he looked at me under the gallery, and I daresay, with so few present, he knew me to be a stranger. Just fixing his eyes on me, as if he knew all my heart, he said, 'Young man, you look miserable.' Well, I did, but I had not been accustomed to have remarks made from the pulpit on my personal appearance before. However, it was a good blow, struck right home...Then lifting up his hand, he shouted, 'Young man, look to Jesus Christ. Look! Look! Look! You have nothing to do but look and live!'

"I saw at once the way of salvation...I looked until I could almost have looked my eyes away...My spirit saw its chains broken to pieces! I felt that I was an emancipated soul, an heir of Heaven, a forgiven one, accepted in Christ Jesus...I had passed from darkness into marvelous light, from death to life. Simply by looking to Jesus, I had been delivered from despair and I was brought into such a joyous state of mind that, now I can say—

'Ever since by faith I saw the stream
Your wounds supplied for me,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall forever be.'

And yet, the manifestation of Divine Grace on this never-to-be-forgotten day in the life of C. H. Spurgeon, was not yet complete! No, truly there was more to follow. From glory unto glory were dim leadings of his soul on that memorable Sabbath. In the morning, at the humble Primitive Methodist chapel, he found salvation to the joy of his soul! He possessed the assurance that was realized by a knowledge that there is "life in a look at the Crucified One." But the joy was not yet complete. The experience of full liberty and perfect freedom had yet to be known to be enjoyed.

Says Spurgeon, "In the text, 'Look, look, look,' I found salvation in the morning. In the text, 'Accepted in the Beloved,' preached at the Baptist church in the evening, I found peace and freedom. Yes—

'It is done, the mighty deed is done,
And from the Father's glorious throne,
The silver trumpet now proclaims,
In sweet, melodious, strains,
A pardon free through Christ the
Savior's bleeding veins.'

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**“The harvest is past, the summer is ended,  
and we are not saved.”**

**Jeremiah 8:20**

Not saved! Dear Reader, is this your mournful plight? Warned of the judgment to come, bid to escape for your life, and yet at this moment not saved? You know the way of salvation, you read it in the Bible, you hear it from the pulpit—it is explained to you by friends and yet you neglect it—and therefore you are not saved.

You will be without excuse when the Lord shall judge the quick and dead. The Holy Spirit has given more or less of blessing upon the word which has been preached in your hearing and times of refreshing have come from the Divine Presence and yet you are without Christ. All these hopeful seasons have come and gone—your summers and your harvest have past—and yet you are not saved!

Years have followed one another into eternity and your last year will soon be here! Youth has gone, manhood is going and yet you are not saved. Let me ask you—will you ever be saved? Is there any likelihood of it? Already the most propitious seasons have left you unsaved. Will other occasions alter your condition? Means have failed with you—the best of means used perseveringly and with the utmost affection—what more can be done for you?

Affliction and prosperity have alike failed to impress you. Tears and prayers and sermons have been wasted on your barren heart. Are not the probabilities dead against your ever being saved? Is it not more than likely that you will abide as you are till death forever bars the door of hope?

Do you recoil from the supposition? Yet it is a most reasonable one! He who is not washed in so many waters will in all probability go filthy to his end. The convenient time never has come, why should it ever come? It is logical to fear that it never will arrive and that like Felix, you will find no convenient season till you are in Hell! O think of what that Hell is and of the dread probability that you will soon be cast into it!

Reader, suppose you should die unsaved? Your doom no words can picture. Write out your dread estate in tears and blood. Talk of it with groans and gnashing of teeth—you will be punished with everlasting destruction from the Glory of the Lord and from the Glory of His power. A brother's voice would gladly startle you into earnestness! O be wise, be wise in time, and before another year begins, believe in Jesus who is able to save to the uttermost!

Consecrate these last hours to lonely thought, and if deep repentance is bred in you, it will be well. And if it leads to a humble faith in Jesus Christ, it will be best of all! O see to it that this day passes not away and you still have an unrepentant spirit! Now, NOW, NOW believe on Jesus Christ and live!

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**PRAY THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL USE THIS SERMON  
TO BRING MANY  
TO A SAVING KNOWLEDGE OF JESUS CHRIST.**

**“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus  
for good works, which God prepared beforehand  
that we should walk in them.”  
Ephesians 2:10**

**“No temptation has overtaken you except such is common to men;  
but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted  
beyond what you are able, but with the temptation  
will also make the way to escape,  
that you may be able to bear it.”  
1 Corinthians 10:13**

**Jesus Christ is the ONLY way to God the Father!  
Not Mary. Not Mohammed. Not a future Messiah.  
Jesus Christ is the ONLY way.  
(John 14:6)**

**“Therefore He (Jesus Christ) is also able to save to the  
uttermost those who come to God through Him,  
since He always lives to make intercession for them.”  
Hebrews 7:25**

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