

# SERMONS THE NEW PARK STREET PULPIT

## VOLUME 2

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*by Charles Spurgeon*

## PREFACE

When Exeter Hall could no longer be secured for services while New Park Street was being enlarged, the Music Hall of Royal Surrey Gardens was engaged for services. This was a popular amusement center in that day and it was quite unusual for religious services to be held in such a place. During the first service, there was a disruption which evidently had been planned by evil men. At an appropriate time, cries of "Fire" began to go out over the building and a rush made toward the exits. Seven people were trampled to death and Mr. Spurgeon suffered a mental and emotional shock that distraught his mind for several weeks before he was able to return to the pulpit again. But he did return and he drew even larger crowds to hear him at the Music Hall.

"EBENEZER! Hitherto the Lord has helped me." Truly may the writer say this. In fact he is compelled, before he proceeds, to write a few words of preface, to express his hearty thanks that he is able to write at all. Great and sore troubles have rolled over his head. He has been exceedingly cast down. His mournful song was for a time—

*"Turn, turn You to my soul,  
Bring Your salvation near—  
When will Your hand release my feet  
Out of the deadly snare?  
The tumult of my thoughts  
Does but enlarge my woe.  
My spirit languishes, my heart  
Is desolate and low."*

But now by merciful restoration he can again sing of the loving kindness of the Lord and make known His faithfulness unto all generations. Renewed health and vigor demand new exertion and fresh gratitude. May Divine grace constrain us to the one and Divine love impel us to the other.

Reader, it is no egotism on our part when we say, "O magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt His name together." It is a source of great thankfulness that the Lord has spared us to see another year and has allowed us to complete a second volume. To His upholding grace be glory, world without end. How shall the lips of unworthy men be able to show forth the wondrous grace of the Lord Jesus in preserving His people from year to year? And especially when they are exposed to perils from friends and foes, from without and within, from success and from sadness? To Him be all glory given, that His servants are kept in His right hand and are not given over to the will of their enemies.

Let feeble saints take courage—He who has helped us will not desert us in our future times of need. The same doctrines which we taught last year are repeated in these sermons. We have met with nothing which has shaken our faith in the "good old paths," but with many things which have constrained us to cleave unto the Word of the Lord with fixed heart and determined spirit. Would that the time were come when the pure Truth of the Gospel would be more fully received among us. Our ministry is a testimony that no new theology is needed to stir the masses and save souls. We defy all the negative Theologians in England to give such proof of their ministry as we can.

If we must be fools in glorying—we must boast that the old doctrines are victorious and that the Lord the Spirit has most signally honored them. We do not cite the overwhelming and ever increasing multitudes who listen to us as a proof in this matter. But we do and will glory in the power of the Gospel, in that it has brought so many to the arms of Christ and raised so many from the dunghill. In every place where the old Gospel has been proclaimed, it has had its trophies

from the worst of men and we are no exception to the rule. The slain of the Lord have been many. His arrows have found out the hearts of His enemies—many have been overthrown by His Spirit and have been ultimately brought to find life and healing in the blood of Jesus.

The best evidences of the Truth of our holy religion are to be found in the marvelous effects it produces. Drunkards, harlots, swearers, thieves, liars and such like, when reclaimed and regenerated, are the jewels in the crown of the Truth. Of such we must say in confidence, “What has God wrought?” If these fruits were only found united with a learned and eloquent ministry, they would be imputed to *the man* and not to *the Truth*. But in this case—our enemies themselves are willing witnesses that they cannot so be accounted for—God has put His measure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power might be ascribed wholly to Himself.

We would confess the truth of all that is uttered to our disparagement, for therein we do but magnify the grace of God, who works by the least of instruments the greatest acts of His love. O for the days of pure doctrine, preached with emphasis of earnestness and demonstration of the Spirit—for these we look and wait. May the Lord send them in His own time.

The form in which these sermons are published, while it insures a wide circulation, has the disadvantage of preventing such a revision as the author would desire. Frequently they are issued with little more than a momentary glance from his eye, consequently errors in grammar and even expression are not infrequent. Nevertheless, we trust to the reader’s judgment and hope that the mistakes are not such as to obscure the sense, or to mislead him in cardinal points. We had rather send them forth with all errors than withhold them, seeing that the Lord has owned them for good.

The talented reporters, Messrs. Reed & Robeson, are worthy of praise for the excellent manner in which, for the most part, they are able to retain the words of a rapid and abrupt speaker. And for the printers we can say no more than this—that they do the work speedily, at a cheap cost—and considering the difficulties which they have to encounter from our constant journeys here and there, they manage to effect it as free from errors as is possible to mortals.

The sermons of last year have enjoyed a very wide circulation in America—a volume having been reprinted in the United States. It has reached the number of 20,000 in a short time. With the Divine blessing how much may be accomplished! But without it how terrible the waste of effort and opportunity.

And now, Reader, if you are a renewed soul, may our Covenant God feed you, keep you and perfect you. And may the words of your brother in Christ be the means of some little comfort and edification to you. It is the same Lord who has loved us both and we hope that He will unite us all in the unity of the Spirit and in the bonds of love.

But if you are ungodly, look at the last words of the volume and consider them and may Jesus the Savior give you grace to turn to Him and be saved.

*This is the fervent prayer of,  
Yours to serve in the Gospel,  
C. H. SPURGEON*

London, January, 1857