

# THE NEW PARK STREET PULPIT SERMONS

## PREFACE

WRITTEN BY C. H. SPURGEON  
AT THE NEW PARK STREET CHAPEL, SOUTHWARK  
DECEMBER, 1857

WE do most heartily give thanks unto the Father of Mercies for His abundant goodness to us through another year. The past year has been a period of peculiar and special blessing. It was preceded by a storm of trouble which well-nigh overwhelmed us—"but the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of the birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land." "The LORD hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

The congregations during this year have been immense and enthusiastic. Vast numbers have no doubt been attracted by curiosity, which was excited by the fearful catastrophe, and thus the Lord has brought good out of evil. If the matter had ended here, there would have been little cause for rejoicing and great reason for anxiety.

But the Lord, the Holy Spirit, has been pleased to apply His own Word with power to the hearts of many, who are now the living witnesses of the saving power of the Gospel. Our Church Meetings have been joyous occasions, for we have there heard marvelous stories of profligates reclaimed, drunkards converted, and desponding souls delivered.

While the doctrine contained in these sermons is precisely the same as that of the preceding volumes, yet the subjects are of a different class and handled in a different manner. In the midst of a large and mixed audience, it is not possible for the preacher to dive very frequently into the deep things of God. His anxiety for the salvation of souls leads him to select themes which are more awakening than instructive, and therefore more adapted for the babes in grace than for strong men in Christ Jesus.

The Sermons preached at the Music Hall are intended to arrest the attention of the careless and alarm the consciences of the hardened. The reader will not, therefore, find in them that fullness and depth of doctrine which he may desire.

During the past year, the sale of these sermons has been more than doubled and the most gratifying testimonials of their usefulness have been received from every quarter of the globe. Unto the Lord be all the praise!

I shall soon issue a volume of my earliest productions, while Pastor of Waterbeach, (to be Published by Messrs. Alabaster and Passmore) and would now bespeak for it a favorable reception.

But turning from these personal matters, the Author would say a word to the saints of the Lord in every place.

Brethren—All hail! The goodwill of Israel's Triune-JEHOVAH rest with you and every covenant blessing be yours in rich enjoyment.

We have reason at this season to be very thankful for the manifest signs of progress in our midst. Perhaps no year since the apostolic times has witnessed so much effort in preaching the Gospel. The divine leaven is gradually stirring the whole lump. Some of the more lethargic have been quickened and even the most active have increased their diligence. So far we take courage and lift our Ebenezer.

But brethren, suffer the word of exhortation. We need more *purity of doctrine*. In many pulpits the deep things of God are kept in the dark. Free grace in its discrimination and omnipotence is not yet preached by the mass of our ministers. The sovereignty of JEHOVAH is impugned and His electing love sneered at. Let us sigh and cry for this.

Again, how much is *earnest prayer* still needed. Your prayer meetings are not what they should be and private prayer is too much neglected. Hundreds of our churches are as sound asleep as the

graveyards which surround their meeting houses, and some of them are nearly as rotten as the corpses in their tombs.

Routine ministers, domineering deacons, hypocritical professors, crab-tree critics, and covetous members are not all dead yet. May divine mercy soon grant us grace to see the last of them!

Above all, let us watch for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with joy and patience. Let us in all tribulation comfort one another with this blessed hope and in all our labors let us take courage from the blessed assurance of His advent.

That the Holy Spirit may be abundantly vouchsafed unto you, is the earnest prayer of

The Servant of Christ and the Church,

C. H. Spurgeon

December, 1857

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Taken from The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit C. H. Spurgeon Collection. Only necessary changes have been made, such as correcting spelling errors, some punctuation usage, capitalization of deity pronouns, and minimal updating of a few archaic words. The content is unabridged. Additional Bible-based resources are available at [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org).