

THE NEW PARK STREET PULPIT SERMONS

PREFACE

WRITTEN BY C. H. SPURGEON
AT THE NEW PARK STREET CHAPEL, SOUTHWARK
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THE “Inexhaustible Barrel” furnishes me with an excellent picture of my own experience as a minister. Often is the meal all but spent in the barrel, and the oil is almost dried up from the cruse, and yet neither of them have failed, but daily need has had its daily supply. Seven years have I served the Lord in London, and like Jacob, I have kept my Master’s sheep, hoping to have some souls, like Rachel, given me for my wages.

The Lord has been a good Master, and has given a double reward to His unworthy workman, first, in bearing all the charges of my warfare through His supporting grace, and secondly, by giving me to see a harvest which is neither twenty nor thirty-fold, but even seventy-fold.

No man can well conceive what a drain it is upon a preacher to have his sermons constantly printed, he can scarcely hope to avoid repetition, and will be constantly in danger of running dry. If it be not a singular reason for gratitude, when a man is able to write a preface to his sixth volume of sermons, containing three hundred and forty-seven discourses, I am very greatly in error. If it seem not so to any other men, it must ever be *to me* a theme of praise and hearty thanksgiving, for Thou Lord, hast helpen me, and by Thy grace I have been richly supplied even to this day.

This sixth year saw us sorrowfully removing from the Surrey Music Hall to a far less convenient spot. The Music Hall, however desecrated and profaned in its ordinary use, must ever remain as none other than the house of God, and the very gate of heaven to hundreds of immortals. The presence of the Lord has made the place of His feet glorious, so that when we heard the sacred voice saying, “Let us go hence,” we obeyed in faith, but we felt sad at heart in leaving that house of our solemnities.

Nevertheless, our third and longest sojourn at Exeter Hall, has been attended by the most marked tokens of the Lord’s continued presence, and it was no doubt ordained by an all-wise providence, that the inhabitants of another region of our city should have the Word brought to their doors. Conversions have been as numerous in the one place as in the other, and not a sermon has been preached in vain.

The uprising of other evangelists has given us unfeigned pleasure, but our earnest prayer has been that by soundness of doctrine they many prove their having been taught of the Holy Spirit, and that by a sober and holy earnestness, as much removed from fanaticism as from formality, they may prove themselves to be sent of the Lord. We have frequently declared that the Lord would again work mightily by uneducated men, and we see the first fulfilment of our desire and belief. The Lord send a sound revival, and chain up the enemy of souls that he mar not the work.

During the next year we hope to enter our Great Tabernacle. Let but the gold and silver be found for the completion of the new house, and the Word will have a wider range among the crowds which can be accommodated in that noble structure. This migration will involve a change of title, and “The New Park Street Pulpit,” will merge into “The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit.”

It is our custom to mention, for the guidance of those who distribute these sermons, those which have been most signally owned in the salvation of sinners. There are several in the present volume which have been exceedingly prolific.

“The King’s Highway Opened and Cleared” has brought very many to comfort of soul and decision for Christ. Both in the hearing and reading of it, men who were both timorous and ignorant have found grace to walk in the Lord’s ways. Unto the gracious Spirit be glory!

“A Christmas Question” proved to be a very seasonable inquiry for undecided ones. It is ever well to give home-thrusts at the conscience, and bring men to a trial of their saving interest in Christ.

“A Blast of the Trumpet against False Peace” has aroused slumberers in different parts of our land. The “Revival Sermon” has met with great acceptance from warm hearts, and has, therefore, had an extensive sale. “Memento Mori,” with its solemn warnings, has been, in the hand of God, the means of alarming and convincing many careless ones, it has had the high honor of bringing poor procrastinating souls to decision.

“Struggles of Conscience,” “Characteristics of Faith,” and “Three Homilies,” have all sounded as the silver trumpet of jubilee in the ears of bankrupt sinners. Our Church Meetings have been made glad by the experiential testimonies of captive sinners, who by these sermons received the proclamation of their liberty. Where God has owned the Word, we may still mourn out infirmities and sins of ignorance, but we must record the Lord’s mercy, and rejoice in His power.

The Head of the Church has opened up to us another door of usefulness, in the translation of these sermons into the Swedish tongue, in which language they have found a very wide circulation, so that we speak in English, French, Welch, Dutch, German, and Swedish, which are almost the only Protestant languages.

Brethren, pray for us, that the Word may be yet more manifestly attended with power. Pardon the errors of both Printer and Preacher. No doubt the list of our errata would be a long one, but your charity, gentle reader, will cover a multitude of faults.

Yours ever truly,

C. H. Spurgeon

December 1860

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.