

A SERMON DELIVERED BY CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON

(1834-1892)

Prince of Preachers

PRINTED In Modern English

By the Grace of God, for all 63 volumes of C. H. Spurgeon sermons in Modern English, and more than 500 Spanish translations, visit:

www.spurgeongems.org

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! 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."

SPURGEON REMINISCENCES ABOUT HIS BAPTISM

"Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus says the LORD; I remember you, the kindness of your youth, the love of your espousals, when you went after Me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown." Jeremiah 2:2.

Then the Lord adds, "I remember you...*the love of your espousals*." Oh, some of us did love God very fervently in our early days! I can recollect the day of my Baptism very well. At this moment it comes back to my memory—I cannot help remembering it because the text suggests that we should, each one, think of our first days with God. It was a summer's morning, the 3rd of May, 1850, and quite early, at the very rising of the sun, I was up, that I might have a quiet hour or two of prayer to God, as thus commenced my public life as a Christian avowing my faith in my Lord Jesus. Then there came a long walk of some eight miles or so to get to the place of Baptism at Isleham Ferry. As I walked along the country road, that week-day morning, with the birds all about me singing, oh, I did feel that I loved my Lord! My soul seemed to dance within me for very joy!

My friends were not Believers in Baptism as it is taught in the Word of God and, therefore, I was about to do a strange thing, for none of my family had thus confessed Christ publicly by being immersed in the name of the Sacred Trinity. I remember standing by the river's bank with a great crowd of people all around in barges and boats, looking on. And when I had walked some considerable distance into the stream to be immersed, and when I rose from the liquid grave, I remember how I felt that, if all the angels in Heaven and all the devils in Hell were gathered there, it mattered not one jot to me! I was Christ's and I had given myself up to be buried with Him, to rise with Him and to live and labor for Him as long as the Lord should spare me! That day my love to my God was bright, and warm, and burning—and that evening, at the little prayer meeting in the vestry, I, who had been the most timid lad, perhaps, in all the world, and never opened my mouth for my Master in public, before, ventured to praise and bless God vocally in the midst of His people and, blessed be His holy name, I have never left off doing so from that day to this!

Many of you might tell a story of your early days which would be much more remarkable than mine. But whether there is anything in them to interest others, or not, God says, "I remember you, the kindness of your youth, the love of your espousals, when you went after Me in the wilderness." Those were good days, blessed days, days of Heaven upon the earth!—

"What peaceful hours I then enjoyed! How sweet their memory still!"

And they also seemed to be as sweet to God as they were to us!—Adapted from *The C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #2399, Volume 41—"*Your First Love*"—Read/download entire sermon at http://www.spurgeongems.org.

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

YOUR MINISTRY NAME, ETC., HERE