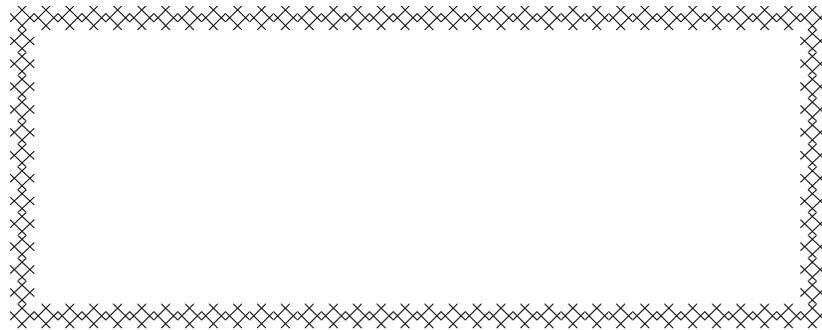
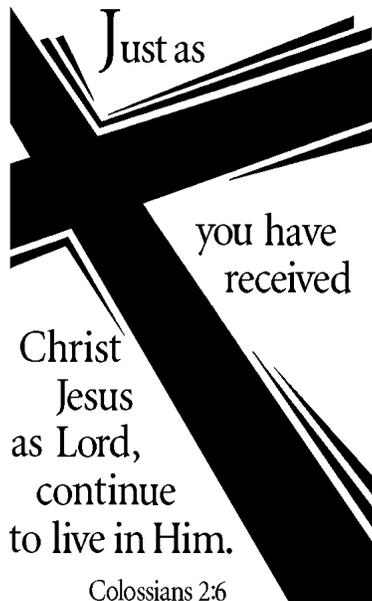


For HIS Glory
Prison Ministry
Emmett and Ann O'Donnell
P.O. Box 291301
Kerrville, TX 78029-1301



Pray for the persecuted Brethren in China.

November, 2018

In this little issue, and Lord willing, *every* issue, our *only* purpose is to honor Jesus Christ.

Poor Soul, Do You Really Look Forward To “Purgatory”?

By C. H. Spurgeon

There are those in the world who will not have the yoke of Christ in the matter of religion—they prefer another. For instance, there are superstitious persons who are not satisfied with the Bible—they need *tradition*. They are not content with the teaching of the ancient Church of Christ as we find it in the Acts of the Apostles—they hanker after those modern upstart churches that call themselves Catholic and Apostolic—and amuse themselves by raking up the grotesque fashions of the Middle Ages.

What is the consequence? Do these perverts, who cast off the yoke of the true Christian religion, get an easier yoke? Ask them. Their penances and their mortifications—their fast days and their festivals—their communions and their celebrations—oh, what do they get for them all? Is there one of them who can say he is saved? It is one of their cardinal doctrines that *no man can know he is*

saved, so that the only position they get in this life is to slave on with a dim hope and to die with a grim rite! And, according to one faith, when they die they go—even if it were the best man in the church—they go to “purgatory”! Ah, cheerless prospect! If I were a Roman Catholic I would turn a heretic in sheer desperation because I would rather go to Heaven than go to “purgatory”!

I cannot see any advantage that is offered to a man—if he gets all he can get, it is not worth having! Who among you would slave his life away in voluntary humiliations, buoyed up with the cheering faith of purgatorial fires as the goal of your days? Where is the gain of it? And there is no church under Heaven, except the true Church of Christ, that says to men, “Believe, and live. Lay hold on Christ, and you are saved.”

We present to you, in Christ’s name, the greatest gift beneath the sky—and other Churches dare not pretend to offer it! They will only tell you that you may get into a state in which you may be saved, perhaps, but they do not know quite certainly. It may be you shall fall away and perish after all, but as to an absolute *certain* salvation in perpetuity, received by an act of faith, they know not what it is! They put on a yoke of iron most grievous to their necks.

And look at self-righteous men and women who try to work their own way to Heaven. The Pharisees of old—what a slavery their life was! Any man who is seeking to be saved by his good works makes himself a slave. He must know in his conscience that his good works are imperfect and therefore he has no title, no sure, clear title to Heaven!

Only the man who takes Christ to be his Wisdom, his Righteousness, his Justification, his Redemption, his All and in All—knows that he is saved!

And he that gets Christ has all that God asks of him. He has his sins punished in his Savior. He has had the Law fulfilled by his Savior and he is thus saved.

Those who will not have Christ, put upon their necks a horrible yoke! Oh, beware of superstition! Beware of self-righteousness! These are iron yokes, indeed!—Adapted from *The C.H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software.—Sermon #1032, Vol. 18—“*The Two Yokes*”—Read/download entire sermon at www.spurgeongems.org.

TELL SOMEONE TODAY HOW MUCH YOU LOVE JESUS CHRIST.

PRAY FOR THE SAINTS! AND YOUR CHAPLAIN/PASTOR!

What an honor it is to be permitted to pray for the saints! For, observe, this brings us into the closest conceivable fellowship with the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. We cannot assist in providing an atonement for human sin—"It is finished," said the Savior, and finished it is. In that work we can have no fellowship except as we receive of its *results*, for, "He has trod the winepress alone, and of the people there was none with Him." In preaching the gospel, today, we are exercising an office in which our Lord Jesus has now no share—the Holy Spirit helps us, but the man Christ Jesus is at the right hand of the Father, and His voice is not heard proclaiming the glad tidings. Therefore, in some respects we have many occupations, and exercise different offices, but, in the business of intercession we are *one*—at this very moment our Lord is pleading before the throne of God, and when we intercede for His people, we are doing precisely the same!

We, in praying for the saints, have actual present fellowship with our great High Priest who intercedes within the veil. I say again, if I preach today, Christ is not preaching. But if I pray, my voice harmonizes with His. If I pray for the brethren, I remember that He stands before the throne of glory with the breastplate on, having the names of all His chosen glittering there upon its precious stones. Is it not, then, a delightful thing to be partakers with the Son of God in the ministry of intercession? In this service He has made us priests unto our God! He is the great Angel with the golden censor, and the smoke of the incense which He offers ascends with the prayers of the saints before the Lord! Beloved, if you would be conformed in service to the Lord Jesus, the opportunity is ready to your hand—be much in intercession for the saints!

And, what an honor it is that we, who so lately were beggars for ourselves at Mercy's door, are now received so much into royal favor that we may venture to speak a word in the King's ear for others! It was sovereign mercy which allowed us to say, "Have mercy upon me!" But what condescension is this which has taken us into such nearness with Himself, that now we can come to the Lord, and say, "I would wish to speak a word with You for a brother of mine. I would venture to ask bounties at Your hands, my Father, for a sister who needs compassion." See, my brothers and sisters, how eminently you are promoted—you are ordained to the high office of "the King's remembrancers," to inquire of Him concerning the good things of His covenant! You are constituted a royal social worker for the King! He sets before you His open treasury, and bids you ask what you will. O priceless grace!

If you, O believer, know how to ask by faith, you may hand out to your brothers and sisters wealth more precious than the gold of Ophir, for intercession is the key of the ivory palaces wherein are contained the boundless treasures of God! Saints in intercession reach a place where angels cannot stand! Those holy beings rejoice over penitent sinners, but we do not read of their being admitted as suppliants for the saints. Yet we, imperfect as we are,

have this favor! We are permitted to open our mouth before the Lord for the sick, and for the tried, for the troubled, and for the downcast—with the assurance that whatever we shall ask in prayer, believing, we shall receive. In this thing great honor is put upon you. Brothers and sisters, take advantage of this honor!

I know very well if Her Majesty should give permission to any one of you to call at the palace, and to ask what you would for your friends, you would not neglect the opportunity. Why, in these days if a man thinks he has the ear of a member of Parliament, or somebody in power, it is not often that he neglects the opportunity of speaking for his cousin, or his son who desires an office where there is little to do, and much to receive! All over the world place-seekers are in abundance. Men of influence, having the ear of the authorities, are always pressed to make all possible use of their position in society. And yet I have to stand here this morning and urge you, dear brothers and sisters, who have the ear of *God*, to exercise your choice prerogative!

You have promises from God of the granting of your request, and many are saying, "I would be spoken for unto the King." Pray to be not slow to help. Use the liberty which your Prince has given you, and plead for your brothers and sisters! If there are no others who needs your prayers, I eagerly ask for a place in them. "Brethren, pray for us," said an apostle—how much more may I say it! Having to minister daily in holy things, our responsibilities and needs are very great. Do not, therefore, forget us when it is well with you. Say a kind thing unto the Prince for His servants, and ask Him to grant us more of His grace. [Adapted from *The C.H. Spurgeon Collection*, Ages Software—Sermon #1049, Vol. 18—"Intercessory Prayer"—Read/download entire sermon at www.spurgeongems.org.]

**PRAY THAT GOD WOULD
BRING
CONFUSION
AND
TRIBULATION
TO INTERNET
PORNOGRAPHERS!**