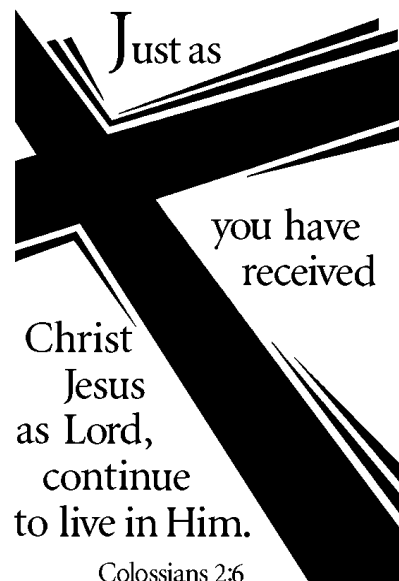


For HIS Glory  
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**Pray for unconverted spouses and children.**

May, 2019

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

## SPURGEON'S TESTIMONY

As I look back upon my own spiritual career, when I was seeking the Savior, I am wonderfully struck with the way in which God performed everything for me; for if He had not, I do remember well when I should have rendered it impossible for me to have been here to tell of the wonders of His grace! Hard pressed by Satan, and by sin, my soul chose strangling rather than life. Had I known more of my own guiltiness, my heart would utterly have broken, and my life have failed.

But wisdom and prudence were mingled with the teachings of God's law. He did not allow the schoolmaster to be too severe, but stayed the soul beneath the dire remorse which conviction caused. I had never believed on Him if He had not taught me to believe! To give up hope in self was desperate work, and then to find hope in Christ seemed more desperate, still. It appeared to me easy enough to believe in Jesus while one was really believing in one's self, but when "despair" was written upon self, then one was too apt to transfer the despair even to the cross, itself, and it appeared impossible to believe!

But the Spirit worked faith in me, and I believed. That is not my testimony, only, but the testimony of all my brothers and sisters—in that hour of sore trouble it was God who performed all things for us! Since then, and up to this moment, my brothers and sisters, if there has been any virtue, if there has been in you anything lovely and of good repute, to whom do you, or can you attribute it? Must you not say, "Of Him all my fruit was found"? You could not have done without Him!

If you have made any progress, if you have made any advance, or even if you *think* you have, believe me, your growth, advance, progress, have all been a mistake unless they have come entirely from Him! There is no wealth for us but that which is dug in this mine; there is no strength for us but that which comes from the Omnipotent One Himself.

"You who perform all things for me," must be our cry up to this hour!—Adapted from the *C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Version 1.0, Ages Software—Sermon 3445, Volume 61—STRONG FAITH IN A FAITHFUL GOD—Read/download the entire sermon, free of charge, at [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org).

## WHAT YOU SHOULD HEAR WHEN YOU LISTEN TO A GOSPEL PREACHER

I was called to pastor a church in a large American city a few years ago. I was quite unfamiliar with the religious climate in that city, having spent but one weekend in it some years earlier. Indeed, I was rather unfamiliar with the whole American religious climate, having ministered abroad the previous fourteen years. I therefore decided to familiarize myself with that religious scene by listening to religious radio programs during my drive to the church building every Lord's-Day morning.

The first program to which I listened featured the pastor of the largest church in the state, and one of the ten largest churches in all America. I heard him tell many interesting stories, for he was a great illustrator. I heard him tell a lot of funny stories, for he was an amusing humorist. I heard him tell of the many good deeds he and his church had done, for they were evidently very humanitarian, and proud of their works and achievements. I heard him give advice regarding inter-personal relationships, politics, finances, and a host of other earthly subjects, for he was quite an expert in earthly things.

But to this day, and after listening to him many times, I could not tell you much regarding what he believed about Jesus Christ. He rarely spoke of Christ except for a passing reference, or mention of His name, or quoting His name when reading Scripture.

Another preacher to whom I often listened was of the more strident camp of the Campbellite sect. He delighted to speak of what he did *not* believe, and of the issues he loved to debate, and of the great evils of things such as eating food in a church building. About the only things of which he spoke highly were what he considered the superiority of his baptism and sect—and of course himself!

But again, I could not tell you much about what he believed about Jesus Christ. And like the other preacher, he rarely spoke of Christ except for a passing reference or mention of His name, or quoting His name when reading Scripture, or citing what he called “the Scriptural name” of his own church.

I hope whoever listens to my own messages hears otherwise. I am not a great story-teller, nor an amusing humorist, nor a notable achiever, nor an expert in earthly things. I find no delight in debating issues, nor in riding a hobby horse, nor in sounding like a stuck record regarding pet doctrines, nor in boasting of any sectarian distinctives. I therefore would not be wise to major on those things. And you should be greatly disappointed if you listened to me in the hope of hearing such things.

It is the great desire of my heart to be known for preaching Christ. I desire to be found in the ranks of those faithful gospel ministers who confess—“We do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bond-servants for Jesus’ sake” (2 Cor 4:5). “For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified” (1 Cor 2:2). I hope to be found doing so the very first time you hear me preach, the very last time you hear me preach, and every time between. And if you ever find me failing to do so, please let me know.—Daniel E. Parks, Pastor

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**“FOR ME, TO LIVE IS CHRIST,  
AND TO DIE IS GAIN.”**

(PHIL 1:21)

## DID YOU CRUCIFY YOUR LORD?

By C. H. Spurgeon

I address some tonight who would shudder at all this, and say, “Oh, sir, I have neither persecuted His people, nor thought lightly of Him; neither have I been negligent concerning Him, for oh, I long to be saved by Him! I seek His face day and night, and confess my sins into His ear, and I ask for pardon through His blood.”

Beloved, I am glad to hear you say this, but I must ask you a question, too. Have you ever doubted whether He could save you? Do you doubt now whether He is willing to save you? Ah, then you crucify Him, for there is nothing that so grieves Him as that unkind, ungenerous thought that He is unwilling to forgive! This touches Him in the heart. This pierces His heart as with a spear, for you to think that He will not, or cannot pardon you! Be guilty of this no longer!

Satan told you it was humility—no, but it is dishonoring your Savior! Come, poor awakened sinner, full of guilt, and full of fear, and say, “I do believe! I will believe that He is both able and willing to save me!” Then, but not until then, may you be able to say, “I have not crucified Him.”—Adapted from the *C. H. Spurgeon Collection*, Version 1.0, Ages Software.—Sermon #3457, Volume 61—ALL ARE GUILTY—Read/download the entire sermon, free of charge, at [www.spurgeongems.org](http://www.spurgeongems.org).

**Jesus Christ is the  
ONLY way to God the  
Father!  
Not Moses. Not Mary.  
Not Mohammed.  
Not a future Messiah.  
Jesus Christ is the  
ONLY way.  
(John 14:6).**