

THE GOSPEL CALL

CHRISTIAN DWARFS EXCERPTED/PARAPHRASED FROM "WORDS OF COUNSEL FOR CHRISTIAN WORKERS" BY CHARLES SPURGEON

"There was once in London a club of small men, whose qualification for membership lay in their not exceeding five feet in height; these dwarfs believed, or pretended to believe, that they were nearer to the perfection of manhood than others, for they argued that men of centuries past had been far more gigantic than the present race, and consequently the way of progress was to grow smaller and smaller; and that the human race as it perfected itself would become as small as themselves. Such a club of Christians might be established today, and without any difficulty might enroll an enormously numerous membership; for the notion is common that our dwarfish Christianity is after all the standard, and

many even imagine that no-bler Christians are enthusiasts, fanatical, and hot-blooded; while we are cool because we are wise; and we are indifferent, because we are intelligent. We must get rid of all this nonsense. The fact is, the most of us are vastly inferior to the Christians of centuries past, who, as I take it, were persecuted because they were thoroughly Christians; and we are not persecuted because we are hardly Christians at all. They were so earnest in the propagation of the Redeemer's kingdom, that they became the nuisance of the age in which they lived. They would not let errors alone. They had not conceived the opinion that they were to hold the truth, and leave other people to hold

error without trying to expose error and manifest God's truth. They preached Christ Jesus right and left, and delivered their testimony against every sin. They denounced the idols, and cried out against superstition, until the world, fearful of being turned upside down, demanded of them, "Is that what you mean? Then we will burn you, lock you up in prison, and exterminate you." To which the Christians replied, "We will accept the challenge, and we will not depart from our resolve to conquer the world for Christ." At last the fire of Christendom burned out much of the physical persecution of an ungodly world. But we are so gentle and quiet, we do not use strong language about other peo-

ple's opinions; but let them go to hell out of so-called love for them... A few are glad to say a word to them in a mild way, but we do not speak with tears streaming down our cheeks, groaning and agonizing with God for them; neither would we thrust the truth upon them, though we know they are lost and have a lack of knowledge of Christ crucified. May God resend the latter rain to His people, to me, and to you, and may we begin to stir ourselves, and seek after the highest form of earnestness for the kingdom of King Jesus. May the days come in which we shall no longer have to complain that we sow much and reap little, but may we receive a hundred-fold reward, through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ."

THE PRAYER MEETING EXCERPTED FROM "REVIVAL GOD'S WAY" BY LEONARD RAVENHILL

"I see a local church adding a large room. I am not sure what it is. I am sure what it is not—it is not an extension to accommodate an expanding prayer meeting. The local "First Church" has just elected new deacons. Were they elected because they are 'full of faith and of the Holy Ghost'? (Acts 6:5). Today, deacons and elders are usually 'men of standing.' In the New Testament Church they were 'men of kneeling' - praying

men. Who checks the prayer lives of the men to be elected? Usually no one. In other words, we will choose who we want and hope that the Lord will mercifully bless us.

"Our spiritual immaturity never shows up more than in our lack of praying, be it alone or in a church prayer meeting. Let twenty percent of the choir members fail to turn up for rehearsal and the choir master is offended. Let twenty percent

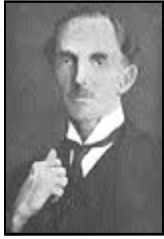
of the church members show up for a prayer meeting and the pastor is elated....

"Decide now! 'Choose you this day.' This text in its original framework is familiar to most of us: Joshua had a dramatic confrontation with Israel. They could serve the gods their fathers served before the flood, or the local gods of the Amorites with whom they were then living, or they could staunchly stand with Joshua who said, 'As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.'"



"O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together."

Psal m 34:3



"I AT ONCE SAW
THAT THIS WAS
THE TRULY
CONSISTENT
CHRISTIAN LIFE"

C.T. STUDD



"FOR HE MADE HIM
TO BE SIN FOR US,
WHO KNEW NO
SIN, THAT WE
MIGHT BE MADE
THE
RIGHTEOUSNESS
OF GOD IN HIM."

2 CORINTHIANS
5:21

**HELP FOR NEW
AND GROWING
CHRISTIANS**



A TRACT FROM AN ATHEIST PARAPHRASED FROM "C.T. STUDD" BY NORMAN GRUBB

This excerpt from an atheist's tract should cause every professing Christian to take personal inventory of themselves. He wrote:

"If I firmly believed, as millions say they do, that entering into a relationship with God through Jesus Christ in this life influenced one's destiny, following Jesus would mean everything to me. I would cast away earthly enjoyments as garbage, earthly

cares as follies, and earthly thoughts and feelings as vanity. Following the Lord Jesus would be my first waking thought, and my last thought before sleep sank me into unconsciousness. I would labor for the cause of Christ alone. I would take thought for tomorrow from the standpoint of eternity alone. I would esteem one soul gained for Heaven worth a life of suffering. Earthly consequences should never stop my hand, nor

quiet my lips. Earth, its joys and griefs, would occupy no moment of my thoughts. I would strive to look upon eternity alone, and on the immortal souls around me, soon to be everlastingly happy or everlastingly miserable. I would go forth to the world and preach to it in season and out of season, and my text would be, "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"

CHRIST—OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS BY JASON BUTTE

In the military, the guards at the perimeter of an army camp are given a password. When a stranger approaches the perimeter, the guard will stop and challenge the approaching individual. Only those with the proper password are allowed to enter. If Heaven were defended by a guard, the Biblical challenge of the sentinel would be, "Tell me of your righteous credentials". All those who would begin in any way to boast of their accomplishments, their credentials of merit, and their religious devotion, would be turned away (Rom 3:20, 10:3). The only persons who will enter Heaven are those who can say from their heart, "I have no righteousness of my own to

boast of, except the righteousness of Jesus Christ my Savior, who has paid the penalty for my unrighteousness on the cross, and has credited me with His own righteous life—my confidence and my boast is in Him alone" (Rom 3:21-28, 10:4). That is the essence of the Gospel message (2 Cor 5:20-21). Let this be your password! Let this truth permeate your heart and your life.

While our righteous standing before God is based solely upon the righteousness of Christ, as a new Christian, you have probably noticed the overarching desire of your heart has become to seek to live righteously. The presence of that desire is evidence

that God has done a transforming work in your heart (Phil 2:13). There will likely come a time in your life when you will become very distraught with your failures to live as righteously as you desire. The Apostle Paul described this battle and frustration in his own life (Rom 7:15-25). How can you overcome this frustration and grief? The same way Paul did. Remember that your deliverance (a.k.a. "salvation") is in Jesus Christ our Lord (Rom 7:24-25). Christ is your righteousness! Keep striving on! Follow after righteousness! Confess your sins! And....praise God that you are "accepted in the Beloved [Jesus Christ]" (Eph 1:6).

NEW RESOURCE ANNOUNCEMENT BY JASON BUTTE

We are pleased to announce the upcoming release of our resource entitled "Helps for New and Growing Christians". This booklet is de-

signed as a Bible study resource for new converts. This resource is packed with Biblical references and fill-in-the-blank study aides to assist

the reader in learning what the Bible has to say about important doctrines. Watch for the release at our website: www.SowingtheWord.org.

OUR “NOT-SO-NOBLE” HERITAGE BY JASON BUTTE

As my family has traced our national heritage back through many generations, we have found ties to the Netherlands, Germany, Native America, and more. An individual's national and cultural lineage can be a source of great pride. However, when we examine our linkages with previous generations, we often find that we have some connections that are “not-so-noble”.

Consider a connection with the “Pharisees”.... In the Scriptures, the Pharisees were a group of people who were very consumed with the external. They loved the traditions and rituals. This progressed to a point where they were blinded to the difference between what God had commanded and the way in which they chose to observe their religious practices (Mark 7:6-9). They became very frustrated, critical, and divisive when others did not act in accordance with their preferred traditions. The Lord's

judgment of this sect is very clear (Matt 23:24-28).

What about us? I believe as we search our own heart, we will find there is some “Pharisee blood” in each of us. Over the past several years I have been giving great diligence to the prayerful study of the Scriptures for the particular purpose of seeking that God may deliver me and keep me from this not-so-noble heritage. As I have examined many of the activities fiercely observed and vigorously defended by churches I have grown up around, I have unfortunately found that a large portion of their practices is nothing more than man-made traditions. Don't get me wrong, traditions are not all bad. We must find a way to “do things”. And when we do things in a certain way for an extended period, that becomes a tradition. There is nothing wrong with that. The issue comes when we become insistent that these things be done in “our” way.

When we do that we reveal our not-so-noble heritage—which is very disruptive to Christian unity.

During my times of pastoral ministry, the most common questions and issues I have had to address with church members has involved their traditions and matters of preference. As opposed to raising questions about Divine truth and the Gospel (the matters we are called to proclaim and defend) these issues tend to involve questions and objections concerning the church calendar, ministerial procedures, worship service styles, and administrative matters. It's the same old story. The lineage of the Pharisees makes it's appearance. This is unfortunate, but if we are honest, we have all probably held too strongly to our traditions at times.

How does this affect ministry and evangelism? Immensely. First, it drains ministers who have to continuously deal with this triviality.



If you continuously bombard your pastor with these trivial matters—stop. A pastor is charged by God to stand by His Word—not traditions. As long as the pastors are upholding God's Word, you are to submit yourself to their leadership (Heb 13:17). Second, when Pharisees are promoting their traditions, it often diverts the energy of all who are subjected to it from the main focus of the church—seeking to glorify God through the fulfillment of the Great Commission. Oh how Satan must love to see God's children get wrapped up with trivial matters! May we ever strive to keep the main thing—the main thing! Find yourself a church that does that, then joyfully submit yourself to serve the Lord through that church.

EVANGELISM TOOLBOX BY JASON BUTTE

We are Christ's spokesmen; we are His ambassadors (2 Cor 5:20). How can we help our generation—where most people profess to be Christians—to consider whether they have truly received Him as their Lord and Savior? (2 Cor 13:5)

One question to help people consider “Why” they think they are saved is to ask them: “What were you like before you were saved?” Asked in a

loving and sincere way—and perhaps in conjunction with your own personal testimony—this question is a non-offensive way to point a person towards self-examination.

Many times they will reveal in their answer that they were exactly as they are now; other times they will reveal that they were as they are now—minus a few religious observances. After hearing their answer, be prepared to (1)

explain to them Biblically and from personal testimony what God does in a person who surrenders their life to Him in faith; and (2) explain to them the Biblical evidence of salvation. For more resources on true and false conversion, visit www.SowingtheWord.org.



“If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature”

2 Corinthians 5:17



“Go ye into all the world,
and preach the Gospel to
every creature”
Mark 16:15

SOWING THE WORD

Evangelize, Awake, Equip!

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About Sowing The Word

The objective of Sowing the Word (STW) is to bring glory to God by declaring the true Gospel of Christ, to stir Christians to seek after and obey the Lord, and to provide evangelism and Bible study resources to Christians world-wide. Thus our motto: “Evangelize, Awake, Equip!” STW is blessed to work with hundreds of Christians in dozens of countries. STW is a ministry of the Central Baptist Church (CBC) in Somerset, KY. This is a new church plant that has been very diligent in seeking to follow the Lord’s pattern for His church. Through believing prayer and enduring service, we have seen the Lord graciously bless this congregation with vibrant new believers and Spirit-filled laborers. Please be prayerful for this body of believers as we seek glorify God uncompromisingly in our community.

NEW GOSPEL TRACTS

- ◇ Confronted with Death in Iraq
- ◇ Spiritual Diagnosis
- ◇ Revival of 1859
- ◇ God’s Mercy
- ◇ Are You a Sinner?
- ◇ Evolution

OUR PRAYER REQUESTS

- ◇ Please pray that God would send up more fellow-laborers in our community
- ◇ Ask God that our ministry may continue to see souls saved for His glory
- ◇ Pray that God will give us the wisdom and discernment to follow His will

Every time a baby is born, there enters into this world another individual who has never heard the Gospel. The one exception to this, of course, was the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ—He is the “Gospel”. The world needs Jesus! WE are responsible for sharing the Good News with our generation. Let each of us endeavor to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout our communities and to the ends of the earth. “O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together” (Psalm 34:3)

World Population: 6,781,521,494

North America:

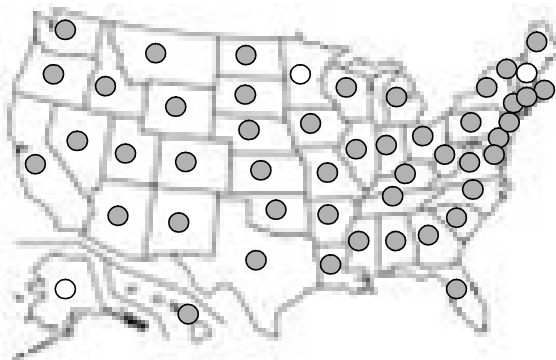
- Canada
- Costa Rica
- Jamaica
- Panama
- Puerto Rico
- United States
- West Indies

Europe:

- England
- Ireland
- Malta
- Portugal
- Romania
- Scotland
- Spain

Oceania:

- Australia
- New Zealand
- Tuvalu



● = Places where STW has distributed the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

Asia:

- Bangladesh
- India
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Myanmar
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Singapore

Africa:

- Cameroon
- Ethiopia
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Mauritius
- Namibia
- Nigeria
- Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
- South Africa
- Tanzania

South America:

- Argentina
- Brazil
- Chile
- Peru
- Trinidad