

Bright Grace for Those in Deep Darkness

Original: "The Child of Light Walking in Darkness"

Preached by **C. H. SPURGEON** on SEPTEMBER 25TH, 1887

Delivered by Dan Phillips, pastor of Copperfield Bible Church on May 19, 2019

Introduction:

1. The Lord describes his own people
2. The Lord takes note of their condition

I. What Is This _____ion Into Which A Child Of God May Come?

A. It Might Seem To Be a _____ing One

B. It Is a Severe Test of _____

C. It Is Also Very _____ful

D. It Is So _____ing

E. It Does Not Absolve Us From Daily _____

II. What Is There To _____ To When You Are In Such A Condition As That?

A. Trust In The _____ of Jehovah

B. Stay Upon His _____

III. Why Should We _____ At Such Times?

A. If You Do Not _____ Now, You Will Have Cause To Suspect Whether You Ever Did _____ At All

B. His Promises Were Made For _____ Times

C. Here A _____ Is Especially Issued For You, To Allow You To _____ In God In Darkness____

D. This Verse Is A _____ To Trust In The Name Of The Lord

E. If You Do Not Stay Upon God In the _____, It Would Seem As If, After All, You Did Not Trust _____, But Were Trusting to the _____

F. Our Blessed Lord And Master Was Not _____ the Blackest Midnight That Ever Fell On Human _____

IV. _____ Will _____ of It If We Do Trust In God In the Dark?

A. Such A Faith Will _____ God

B. You Will Be _____

C. Thou Wilt Prove and Enjoy the Power of _____

D. You Will Become An _____ed Christian

E. We Shall Come Out Into Greater _____ Than We Have As Yet Hoped For

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Biography

Spurgeon, Charles Haddon (1834–1892), often (and rightly) called "The Prince of Preachers." Born in Kelvedon, Essex, to a line of preachers and churchmen. Converted at age 15, preaching his first sermon in 1850 at age 16, and becoming a Baptist pastor in 1852. Began preaching in London at age 19. His warm preaching of Christ was so effectively used to reach the lost and the hungry that his congregation in the Metropolitan Tabernacle grew to a building seating 6000, debt-free. In 1861 Spurgeon preached on a national day of fasting and prayer to 23,654 at the Crystal Palace. Founded a pastors' college and an orphanage which still exist, and an association to spread Christian writing. His published sermons went throughout the world, and he edited a magazine called *Sword and Trowel*. Spurgeon very boldly opposed slavery (resulting in great hostility in parts of America's South), preached the doctrines of grace known as Calvinism, insisted on the inerrancy and inspiration of Scripture, and kept Christ central to all he said and did. He had many severe physical and spiritual struggles, and was heartbroken during the "Downgrade Controversy" (1887-1889) in his own Baptist denomination.

Scriptural allusions

Spurgeon used the King James Version, and often alluded to passages without citing them. Here are *fifty-one* of the Biblical allusions that Spurgeon works into this sermon, in order of occurrence:

Jeremiah 23:28 — The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What *is* the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.

2 Timothy 2:19 — Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Isaiah 27:3 — I the LORD do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest *any* hurt it, I will keep it night and day.

1 John 1:7 — But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Psalms 27:1 — The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD *is* the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Isaiah 66:12 — For thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream: then shall ye suck, ye shall be borne upon *her* sides, and be dandled upon *her* knees.

Psalms 36:7 — How excellent *is* thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

Ecclesiastes 7:6 — For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so *is* the laughter of the fool: this also *is* vanity.

2 Corinthians 4:17 — For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

- Luke 15:25 — Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing.
- Luke 15:27 — And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound.
- Song of Solomon 2:12 — The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing *of birds* is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;
- Hebrews 12:6 — For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.
- 1 Peter 4:12 — Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:
- Acts 27:29 — Then fearing lest we should have fallen upon rocks, they cast four anchors out of the stern, and wished for the day.
- Romans 12:17 — Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.
- Exodus 10:21 — And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness *which* may be felt.
- Psalms 74:9 — We see not our signs: *there is* no more any prophet: neither *is there* among us any that knoweth how long.
- Habakkuk 3:17 — Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither *shall* fruit *be* in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and *there shall be* no herd in the stalls:
- Luke 22:53 — When I was daily with you in the temple, ye stretched forth no hands against me: but this is your hour, and the power of darkness.
- Isaiah 43:2 — When thou passest through the waters, I *will be* with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.
- Isaiah 9:3 — Thou hast multiplied the nation, *and* not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, *and* as *men* rejoice when they divide the spoil.
- Psalms 126:6 — He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves *with him*.
- Psalms 60:3 — Thou hast shewed thy people hard things: thou hast made us to drink the wine of astonishment.
- Psalms 37:7 — Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.
- Psalms 37:4 — Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.
- Isaiah 28:16 — Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner *stone*, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.
- Exodus 14:13 — And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.
- Psalms 46:10 — Be still, and know that I *am* God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

- Revelation 1:4 — John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;
- Psalms 90:1 — Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.
- Hebrews 13:8 — Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.
- Proverbs 18:10 — The name of the LORD *is* a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.
- Psalms 9:10 — And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.
- John 14:9 — Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father?
- Psalms 40:2 — He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, *and* established my goings.
- Exodus 15:1 — Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea.
- Psalms 12:6 — The words of the LORD *are* pure words: *as* silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.
- Job 29:5 — When the Almighty *was* yet with me, *when* my children *were* about me;
- Job 13:15 — Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.
- Proverbs 24:10 — *If* thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength *is* small.
- John 12:27 — Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.
- Matthew 26:38 — Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.
- Romans 8:29 — For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
- Psalms 97:11 — Light is sown for the righteous, and gladness for the upright in heart.
- Psalms 30:5 — For his anger *endureth but* a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning.
- Psalms 98:1 — O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvellous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.
- Isaiah 42:16 — And I will bring the blind by a way *that* they knew not; I will lead them in paths *that* they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.
- Isaiah 45:3 — And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call *thee* by thy name, *am* the God of Israel.
- Psalms 30:11 — Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: thou hast put off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness;
- Revelation 7:14 — And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Glossary

Ebenezer means *Rock of Help* in Hebrew, and refers to 1 Samuel 7:12, where such a rock was erected to commemorate how God had helped them have victory up to that point.

Then Samuel took a stone, and set *it* between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.

Pilgrim's Progress was a favorite resource for Spurgeon, and he constantly referred to it. It contributes a number of place-names and items to this sermon, including the Celestial City, Delectable Mountains, Mount Clear; Hill Difficulty, the Valley of the Shadow of Death, and the weapon of All-Prayer.