



THE BEACON BEAM

March 2015

FEEDING CHRIST'S SHEEP

5 Things the Church Needs Today

By C. H. Spurgeon

We need a work of the Holy Spirit of a supernatural kind, putting power into the preaching of the Word, inspiring all believers with heavenly energy, and solemnly affecting the hearts of the careless, so that they turn to God and live. We would not be drunk with the wine of carnal excitement, but we would be filled with the Spirit. We would behold the fire descending from heaven in answer to the effectual fervent prayers of righteous men. Can we not entreat the Lord our God to make bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the people in this day of declension and vanity?

We want a revival of old-fashioned doctrine. I know not a single doctrine which is not at this hour studiously undermined by those who ought to be its defenders. There is not a truth that is precious to the soul which is not now denied by those whose profession it is to proclaim it. To me it is clear that we need a revival of old-fashioned gospel preaching like that of Whitefield and Wesley. The Scriptures must be made the infallible foundation of all teaching; the ruin, redemption and regeneration of mankind must be set forth in unmistakable terms.

Urgently do we need a revival of personal godliness. This is, indeed, the secret of church prosperity. When individuals fall from their steadfastness, the church is tossed to and fro; when personal faith is steadfast, the church abides true to her Lord. It is upon the truly godly and spiritual that the future of religion depends in the hand of God. Oh, for more truly holy men, quickened and filled with the

Holy Spirit, consecrated to the Lord and sanctified by His truth. Brethren, we must each one live if the church is to be alive; we must live unto God if we expect to see the pleasure of the Lord prospering in our hands. Sanctified men are the salt of society and the saviours of the race.

We deeply want a revival of domestic religion. The Christian family was the bulwark of godliness in the days of the Puritans....How can we hope to see the kingdom of our Lord advance when His own disciples do not teach His gospel to their own children? Oh, Christian men and women, be thorough in what you do and know and teach! Let your families be trained in the fear of God and be yourselves "holiness unto the Lord"; so shall you stand like a rock amid the

surging waves of error and ungodliness which rage around us.

We need saints. We need gracious minds trained to a high form of spiritual life by much converse with God in solitude. Saints acquire nobility from their constant resort to the place where the Lord meets with them. There they also acquire that power in prayer which we so greatly need. Oh, that we had more men like John Knox, whose prayers were more terrible to Queen Mary than 10,000 men! Oh, that we had more Elijah's by whose faith the windows of heavens should be shut or opened!

This power comes not by a sudden effort; it is the outcome of a life devoted to the God of

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"Can we not entreat the Lord our God to make bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the people in this day of declension and vanity?"

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Schedule of Services:

Sunday
Morning Worship....9:30 AM
Sunday School.....11:10 AM
Evening Worship.....6:00 PM

Wednesday
Prayer Meeting.....7:00 PM
IMPACT Clubs.....7:00 PM
Teen Ministry.....7:00 PM

Beacon Highlights for March

Special Events for March

01	ESL	19	Silver Saints
04	Teen/Parent Focus IMPACT Clubs	21	Teens/Bowling
08	Lord's Table ESL	22	ESL
10	Coffee n' Courage Elders/Deacons Meeting	24	Coffee n' Courage
11	IMPACT Clubs	25	IMPACT Clubs
14	Teen Homeplace Ministry	26	Men Sharpening Men
15	Members Meeting ESL	29	ESL
17	Coffee n' Courage	31	Coffee n' Courage
18	IMPACT Clubs		

March Member Birthdays

02	Ted Barker
09	Gena Boswell
13	Stuart Waugh
14	Dru Guthrie
15	Mary Ellen Crumpton
17	Scott Haizlip
19	Thad Boyd Gloria Hendry
24	Melissa Phillips
25	Larry Hunter
29	Walt Atkins Ken Delorge

You are invited to join us for our

Spring Bible Conference

Sunday, April 26 through Wednesday, April 29

With Pastor Mark Webb from Olive Branch, Mississippi



March Missionary Birthdays

01	Mike Webster
12	Cheri Giuliani
13	Carol Bunyan Stuart Waugh

*Children of Missionaries

Sympathy ~ We express our heartfelt sympathy to the family of:

Delcie Blalock
Fred Carroll
Margaret Frost
Ann Griffin Hill

Jeff Moser
Jean Northcott
Robert Travis

The Beacon Broadcast

Monday thru Friday

WITA 1490 AM (Knoxville, TN)	9:30 a.m.
WKBA 1550 AM (Roanoke, VA)	10:00 a.m.
WKPA 1390 AM (Lynchburg, VA)	10:00 a.m.
WBAG 1150 AM (Burlington, NC)	12:15 p.m.
WTRU 830 AM (Winston-Salem, NC)	2:00 p.m.

Sunday

WPCM 920 AM (Burlington, NC)	9:00 a.m.
WCRU 960 AM (Charlotte, NC)	9:30 a.m.
WBAG 1150 AM (Burlington, NC)	10:30 a.m.
WTRU 830 AM (Winston-Salem, NC)	10:30 a.m.
WDRU 1030 AM (Raleigh, NC)	10:30 a.m.
WSML 1200 AM (Graham, NC)	8:30 p.m.
WLES 560 AM (Richmond, VA)	10:30 a.m.
KUTR 820 AM (Salt Lake City, UT)	11:00 a.m.
Harbour Light of the Windwards 1400 AM/94.5 FM (Caribbean)	9:30 p.m.

Beacon Pastors

Gregory N. Barkman	<i>Senior Pastor</i>
Michael R. Karns	<i>Minister of Christian Education</i>
Robert F. La Tour	<i>Minister of Families</i>
Gerald J. Counts	<i>Minister of Visitation</i>
Gregory L. Phillips	<i>Minister of Music</i>

Doctrinal History (Part Eight)

Greg Barkman

When I wrote the first article on my doctrinal journey, I had no idea it would grow into such an extensive series, but encouraging feedback from readers of *The Beacon Beam* kept me going. I will now relate some of the steps employed to bring our church to the same Calvinistic understanding that I had come to embrace. Please understand that bringing a church from Arminianism to Calvinism is usually a long, slow process. Some believe it is all but impossible. I assure you that this is not the case, but it requires a great deal of patience and wisdom. Ultimately, God must enable this process if it is to succeed, but we have many reasons to believe He will guide and empower our efforts as we look to Him. Some question the ethics of trying to reform a church. In my case, I felt a special obligation, since as founding pastor, I led the church in the wrong direction at the beginning. Now that God had shown me greater truth, it was my responsibility to correct my previous errors, if possible. But I don't think anyone needs to hesitate about reformation. If a pastor discovered there were people in his church who did not believe in the doctrine of the Trinity, wouldn't he have an obligation to try to bring them to a correct understanding of Scripture? If you believe that Arminianism is error and Calvinism is truth, don't you have an obligation to try to bring people into greater light?

PREPARATORY PREACHING.

The pulpit is the key to any growth and change in churches, and that is where doctrinal change must begin. I believe there are three kinds of preaching that need to be employed—preparatory, targeted, and special. By *preparatory preaching*, I mean preaching which is not overtly Calvinist, but prepares people to re-

ceive *targeted preaching* which comes later. In one sense, all preaching should be preparatory, because every sermon should better equip the congregation to understand and embrace whatever is taught in Scripture. Preparatory preaching emphasizes the reliability and authority of Scripture, and prepares people to accept Bible

“The Doctrines of Grace are thoroughly Biblical, but many people have never been exposed to them.”

doctrine. It instills confidence in God's Word. It encourages people to realize that they do not presently understand everything, and never will this side of eternity, but to accept whatever the Bible says is so. It stimulates a desire to understand more of what Scripture teaches, and a willingness to embrace new teaching as long as there can be no doubt it is thoroughly Biblical. Some Christians think they already know everything about the Bible, and consequently, rarely grow in new areas of understanding. How can you teach someone if he thinks he knows it all? I've occasionally heard preachers say that they haven't changed their doctrine since the day they began preaching. This is no doubt intended to affirm that they are not compromisers. However, I'm afraid it may be an admission that they are unwilling to learn and grow.

Some of the best preparatory preaching is consecutive expository in nature. Preaching through a book in the Bible is both instructive and preparatory. It prepares people to receive whatever comes next. Having shown

the congregation exactly what is in the text already covered, they are now better prepared to consider new doctrine contained in the next text in sequence. Having satisfied themselves that everything up to this point is solidly Scriptural, it is easier for them to see that the next verse is also Biblical, even though it may contain new truth which they have not previously considered. The preacher is clearly not skipping around helter-skelter, riding hobbies, but is carefully handling God's Word with reverence as he moves from verse to verse through an extended passage of Scripture. A lot of important preparation is accomplished by skillfully expounding Scripture, even when no specific Calvinist doctrines are being taught. People need to learn that they can trust the preacher to be thorough in his preparation, so that when he comes to challenging doctrines like election, his people trust him to be competent and honest in the way he deals with God's Word.

TARGETED PREACHING.

After a foundation of preparatory preaching has been laid, the pastor who has been faithful and patient can begin to introduce some *targeted preaching*. He may now want to select passages which contain clear Calvinist doctrine, texts which He avoided as he built the confidence of his congregation in his careful handling of Scripture. When his people know that he has accurately expounded passages with which they are familiar, he is ready to address passages which they have previously overlooked. The Doctrines of Grace are thoroughly Biblical, but many people have never been exposed to them. Topical preaching allows pastors to choose only “safe” texts, deliberately steering clear of those which could

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No one, it seems, prays as frequently or as fervently as they would like. The Christians in my life, including the Christian writing this article, often consider their prayer lives disappointing and discouraging.

And so I was excited to find some encouragement for prayer from one whom many might think an unlikely person: John Calvin. Calvin may be more widely known for his dour (and biblical) assessment of humanity than for his pep-talk motivations, but given the discouragement we all feel about our prayers, we need all the encouragement we can get.

Here is his encouragement (taken from his *Institutes* 3.20.31): Calvin considers congregational songs to be sung prayers. Singing, in his sense, is a means to an end: not actually *something* that church attenders do as much as *a way* that they do something.

Consider this paradigm. Think of that song of adoration that you love to sing. That is a sung prayer of adoration. Think of a classic hymn that reminds you of God's faithfulness. That is a sung prayer of thanksgiving. Think of that wonderful new chorus where you declare your intention to live for God. That is a sung prayer of dedication. Think of that upbeat song loved by the student ministry in your church. That is a sung prayer of celebratory delight.

Sure, not all songs can be sung prayers. Songs that are sung to other believers are best described as sung exhortations. Other songs can be sung statements of belief (creeds) or even narrative testimonial songs. But many of the songs you love to sing at church are sung prayers.

So, Calvin would say, if you love singing to God, you love to pray. Now *that* is encouraging.

Calvin goes on to explain four

ways that singing helps our prayers. First, singing our prayers helps us *unite our gathered church*. Calvin writes that sung public prayers are remarkable because "with one common voice, as it were, with the same mouth, we all glorify God together." When an entire congregation sings corporate prayers, it encourages the individual believer. Calvin writes, "We do this openly, that all men mutually, each one from his brother, may receive the confession of faith and be invited and prompted by his example."

"When an entire congregation sings corporate prayers, it encourages the individual believer. Calvin writes, 'We do this openly, that all men mutually, each one from his brother, may receive the confession of faith and be invited and prompted by his example.'"

Second, singing our prayers helps *focus our wandering thoughts*. How kind of God to accommodate our wayward mental processes by giving us music! Words and song, Calvin writes, "help the human intention, which is fragile and easy to turn away if it is not confirmed in all ways, and they keep its thoughts focused on God."

Third, singing helps *enflame our withering affections*. Calvin believed that sincere, hearty affections were essential for acceptable worship. He writes, "Unless voice and song, if interposed in prayer, spring forth from deep feeling of heart, neither has any

value or profit in the least with God." Singing, both scientific and anecdotal evidence suggests, helps us engage our emotions. When melodies ascend, our hearts ascend with them. Repetition may sound unusual in our normal speech, but songs can repeat lyrics to allow our hearts to dwell on, and feel, a particular truth more deeply.

Fourth, singing our prayers helps us *engage our entire bodies*. Singing engages a church attender more than passive sitting and listening. Calvin argues, "The glory of God ought, in a measure, to shine in the several parts of our bodies . . . both through singing and through speaking." Singing calls a congregation to engage vocal chords and tongues, diaphragms and lungs. And this points us toward the deep relationship between music and movement. Calvin writes that bodily expressions during prayer (including sung prayer) "are exercises whereby we try to rise to a greater reverence for God" (3.20.33).

So this weekend, as we gather for worship, let us remember that worship leaders are not simply leading a time of singing. They are leading our church in prayer. And as you adore your God and confess your faith in song, be encouraged to take those sung prayers home with you and use them in the fight of faith.

By Matthew Westerholm, serves at Bethlehem Baptist Church, Minneapolis, MN, as a pastor for worship and music.
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Is Your Church Man-Centered or God-Centered?

Steve Lawson

I want to talk to you...about who the target audience is in your ministry.... It's who you are most trying to connect with and who you want to most win the approval of in your ministry. Everything in your church ministry revolves around suiting one's target audience. And really today I think the crisis in ministry is very much a crisis of target audience.

There are certainly no lack of options today, if you listen to what everyone is saying regarding who their target audience is. Some would say that our target audience is unchurched people—unsaved, unchurched people. And so we want to go and survey the community and find out what unconverted, unregenerate people want in a church and then adapt our entire ministry strategy to suiting their felt-needs, and so we adapt the music, we adapt the message, we provide church amenities to make them feel very much at home in the church. The only problem with that is, is that an unconverted person will never want what they truly need. They will only want what their felt-needs are, which are on the surface, but that is not their true need.

Martyn Lloyd-Jones used to say, I never let my patients write the prescription, it is the doctor who writes the prescription.

Other people feel, "Well it's our church members that is our target audience." For example, the charter members of the church. It's their church. They founded the church, they have bank-rolled the church, and so everything needs to comply with what the charter members would want. The only problem with that is, it is not their church. It is the church of the Lord Jesus Christ and so we must please Him.

Other people would say, well the target audience is the young peo-

"...the primary reason for the existence of the church is to unveil the glory of God upon the Earth. It is to uphold the glory of God upon the Earth. And so everything that we do must be to please Him. It must be to honor Him, and to glorify Him."

ple. After all, they're the future of the church. Everything must be designed to reach young couples, and single adults. And so, in order to have young people and students, then we need hip-hop music, and we need skits, and drama, and we need casual attire, and we need short sermons, and it's so hard for them to get here on Sundays so we'll have a Saturday night service and pretend like the Lord's Day is on Saturday. But the only problem is, culture is changing so rapidly it would be impossible to adapt something to a group of people that is constantly in change.

Many other potential target audiences could be cited: the upwardly mobile, the Baby Boomers, the Generation X'ers. And if that is your target audience then everything will be styled to win their approval.

And so we need to ask the very fundamental question, and the very foundational question: whose approval do you most desire in minis-

try? Who do you desire to most have the approbation of?... And the only answer that we can give to that question, ultimately, is that it would be God Himself. Everything in the church must be for the glory of God. And that is what the Reformers called *Soli Deo Gloria*, for the glory of God alone. And so in the church the primary reason for the existence of the church is to unveil the glory of God upon the Earth. It is to uphold the glory of God upon the Earth. And so everything that we do must be to please Him. It must be to honor Him, and to glorify Him.

And so, God is our target audience. We must preach for His approval. We must worship in a way that is pleasing to Him, because we're not worshiping one another, and we're not worshiping the person sitting on our left, or on our right, and we're not worshiping the person who is out in the community. We are worshiping almighty God who rules and reigns in the heavens. And so, therefore, the worship that I bring to Him must be intrinsically pleasing to Him. If I please God it doesn't matter whom I displease, and if I displease God it doesn't matter whom I please.

Dr. Steve Lawson is President and founder of OnePassion Ministries and hosts The Institute for Expository Preaching in cities round the world. Dr. Lawson is also a Teaching Fellow for Ligonier Ministries. He is a Professor of Preaching and oversees the Doctor of Ministry program at the Master's Seminary. Dr. Lawson is also Professor in Residence for Truth Remains. He serves as the Executive Editor for *Expositor Magazine*, published by OnePassion Ministries.

A walk to the mailbox yielded the usual, not much more than a few pieces of junk mail. But wait ~ there's one piece that looks official. It is...a letter from the Social Security Administration informing me that I'm now old enough to collect Social Security if I want to! I can take the smallest amount now or take a chance on living long enough to get more if I wait a few years. Social security? Wow! When did that happen? Have I really reached that age with no warning at all?

I can't say there haven't been signs. I have been celebrating birthdays regularly and I *did* sign up for Medicare last year. And there are others, some quite obvious, like that now-necessary magnifying mirror near the bathroom sink, a tool that mostly highlights wrinkles and gray hair. There's diminishing stamina demonstrated by naps in the den before bedtime, and accompanied by a reticence to leave home after dark. The list of things forgotten yesterday is almost as long as today's to-do list, and that unmistakable sign I hear from so many around me... finding it more gratifying to clean out and give away than to accumulate more stuff. During a recent lunch with fourteen other women I was interested to hear the conversation shift to and remain on the subject of down-sizing, and just this morning an email exchange with friends from high school covered that same subject. (By the way, the consensus is 'Do it now, not later!' and I'm listening!)

These are but few of the undeniable signs of aging minds and bodies, and in spite of the endless TV and online offerings of ways to halt the process, we *are* going to age out. But there is one aspect of our

being that has every opportunity to grow and to become, not more feeble, but more vigorous. Souls have neither muscles to wear out nor joints to creak, no eyesight to grow dim nor ears prone to deafness. We do have hearts that can grow faint, faith that can weaken, dispositions that grow sour, but unlike our bodies, whose eventual decline is sure, these parts of our being can actually soar!

"What do you do when your supply of grace runs low? You do what you do when you run low on anything. You go to the place where it can be found and to find grace there is a progression to follow. It starts with a revelation of who God is: "...in every respect immeasurably superior to yourself..." and when we see Him as he is, we repent of who we are... in humility!"*

And what are the signs of an aging *soul*? Have you noticed that as we age we become either sweeter or more...shall we say... 'vinegary'? Due to the inevitable changes in our lives, we are naturally prone to turn inward. We stay home more because going out is too difficult. Illness may consume our strength and resources. Our loved ones are growing older at the same rate and because of that, loneliness-caused depression might imprison us. Put several of these together and we are at risk of developing a grumpy disposition that recognizes nothing but our losses, and of adopting an unpleasant attitude to-

ward those around us. This is not a problem caused by aging, but is rather a age-old symptom of a sinful nature and one that must be battled all our lives. But some lose that battle when young and when older, add insult to injury with the 'Now that I'm this old I can say what I want' attitude! What is that really, other than a soul running low on grace ~ that God-given ability to respond to life with a Christ-like mindset?

Someone said, 'When we begin to slide backward we become unhappy with all those Christians around us. We think they are the problem but they are not...WE are!' That is a gauge we need to check often...how much graciousness do we show to those around us? But even more reliable is the mirror which, as does the one by your bathroom sink, shows you all the warts you'd rather not, but need to see. The mirror of Philippians 4:8 shows us what our thoughts should look like. Compare yours to 'true, noble, just, lovely, virtuous and praiseworthy'. And actions? Galatians 5:22-23 is a picture of a harvest... of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness, plus gentleness and self-control. These should be growing in abundance, greater than ever the longer we live. Or have we grown too old for it to matter? Maybe graceless characteristics have been a part of us for so long we no longer recognize them as sin.

What do you do when your supply of grace runs low? You do what you do when you run low on anything. You go to the place where it can be found and to find grace there is a progression to follow. It starts with a revelation of who God is: "...in every respect immeasurably superior to your-

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Doctrinal History (Part Eight)

Greg Barkman

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cause difficulty. Some Christians have attended church all their lives and never heard about the doctrine of election, or any of the doctrines of grace. Others have heard the term *election* only in derision. This is where targeted preaching is needed. Sometimes pastors who are closet Calvinists believe that they can bring people to understand the doctrines of grace through vague hints rather than intentional exposition, but that rarely accomplishes the goal. After the pastor has gained the confidence of his congregation, he is ready to select books of the Bible where Calvinist doctrine is explicit. I well remember when I began a series through the Gospel of John in 1995. When we came to chapter six, some interesting things began to happen. Statements such as, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me..." (John 6:37), and "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him..." (John 6:44) were electrifying. The doctrines of election and irresistible grace were undeniable. Many of our people had never heard these verses expounded. They had been glossed over, not honestly explained. Suddenly, they were confronted with truth which they had never heard, but now realized is in the Bible. It was a watershed moment for many. Would they receive Bible truth, even if it was new and contradicted what they formerly believed, or would they reject Scripture? Thankfully, most were willing to embrace truth. They were already committed to accept whatever the Bible says as true, and since the Bible clearly says these things, they were willing to believe them. They realized that they would have to wrestle with these doctrines before they could fully comprehend, but at least they were willing to incorporate them into their thinking and

meditate upon them. Sadly, two or three were unwilling to do this, and left for other churches where they were more comfortable. We had heavy hearts as they departed, but rejoiced in knowing we were being faithful to the Word of God. We had similar results when I preached

"The impatient pastor will probably blow his church to pieces."

through Romans. Most of our people received the meat of God's Word, and grew in their appreciation for the sovereignty of God in salvation. A couple of folks departed for shallower, more comfortable waters. God blesses those who put truth above comfort, and though it is hard to lose fellowship with those you love, God always brings others to take their place. Our church continued to mature in knowledge, and developed a more reverent and grateful worship of God.

SPECIAL PREACHING.

Along with preparatory and targeted preaching, I have learned that *special preaching* is an important part of successful reformation. By this I mean guest speakers for Bible and missionary conferences. Although a pastor may have earned the trust of his people, it is still difficult for some to comprehend why their pastor is preaching doctrines they've never heard before. Are there others who believe the same things? Is it possible their preacher has "gone off the rails"? It is helpful for other voices to reinforce this teaching. Since

everyone is different, the approach of one may prove to be more effective than another. Hearing a different voice saying the same things can be very helpful to solidify transition. Previously, I told you about the Bible Conference speaker we invited repeatedly for many years who was effective in this regard. We found others to add to the symphony of truth, and selectively introduced them to our church. Having effective speakers return is more helpful, in my opinion, than engaging new speakers for every meeting. Although there is advertising value in promoting fresh personalities, it takes time for preachers to gain the confidence of a congregation, and once gained, it is wise to capitalize upon that trust. After all, the main goal is deepening our understanding of the Word, not simply attracting a curious crowd. We also looked for missionaries who believe the doctrines of grace. Because some Christians believe that Calvinists are not evangelistic, a fervent, warm hearted Calvinist missionary can accomplish much good. Living examples are worth more than historical dead men, and getting the right missionaries helped us grow in a Biblical understanding of the Gospel.

What I have described takes time. The impatient pastor will probably blow his church to pieces, but the patient pastor who is committed to truth can transform a church if he will work at it slowly and steadily. There are other important elements in addition to preaching, and I plan to introduce them in my next article, Lord willing. Sometimes, I can scarcely believe how far we have come, by God's grace, but I assure you it has been a wonderful journey, even with occasional bumps in the road. God is faithful to His people, and delights to help those who honor His Word. Blessed be the name of the Lord!

5 Things the Church Needs Today

C. H. Spurgeon

(Continued from page 1)

Israel! If our life is all in public, it will be a frothy, vapory ineffectual existence; but if we hold high converse with God in secret, we shall be mighty for good. He that is a prince with God will take high rank with men, after the true measure of nobility.

Beware of being a lean-to; endeavour to rest on your own walls of real faith in the Lord Jesus. May none of us

fall into a mean, poverty-stricken dependence on man! We want among us believers like those solid, substantial family mansions which stand from generation to generation as landmarks of the country; no lath-and-plaster fabrics, but edifices solidly constructed to bear all weathers, and defy time itself.

Given a host of men who are steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the

work of the Lord, the glory of God's grace will be clearly manifested, not only in them, but in those round about them. The Lord send us a revival of consecrated strength, and heavenly energy!

The Kind of Revival Wanted by the Church, C. H. Spurgeon, 1885

On the Feminine Side

Marti Barkman

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self...”* and when we see Him as he is, we repent of who we are...in humility! And God gives grace to the humble! So you see, humility is more than just feeling sorry and determining to do better. It is what happens when we really know God. And those who know God have souls that soar with a graciousness created by God's grace!

Why is this important? None of us, young or old, knows how many

days we have left. Every day of life is an opportunity to share the good news of God's grace with someone who needs it! We all know and love someone like that! But grace is best shared graciously. One of my favorite memories of my father is when, at age ninety-two, he said to me as I took him home after church, "Tell Greg how much I appreciated the message. It was such a help to me." Dad passed away at age ninety-three, as sweet and gracious as

ever, because he never aged out of his need for the revelation of Christ and truth from His Word. And because of that he never stopped giving out the good news wherever he went.

~ If we could erase all the physical signs of aging would our disposition give it away? ~

*C. S. Lewis

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