

Sermon Quotes
December 17th, 2006
Last Sermon in the Study of Hebrews- Chp 13:20-25

I have come near to Jesus and spoken with him and enjoyed him and worshipped him as the final Word of God in these last days (1:2), as the Creator of the heavens and earth whom angels worship (1:6,10), as the Pioneer of our salvation who was made perfect through suffering (2:10), as one who became flesh that he might die in our place and free us from the fear of death (2:14), as one superior to Moses as a son is superior to a servant (3:5), as a sympathetic High Priest who opens the way to the throne of grace (4:14-16), as one who saves for all time those who draw near to God through him (7:25), as the Mediator of a new blood-bought covenant to secure that our sins will be forgiven and the law will be written on our hearts and that God will be our God (8:10-12), as the one who by his blood purifies our consciences from dead works to serve the living God (9:14), as the one who put an end to all sacrifices by putting away sin once for all through the sacrifice of himself (9:26), as the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith who for the joy set before him endured the cross, despised the shame and sat down at the right hand of God until all his enemies are made a stool for his feet (12:2; 1:13), as the one who suffered outside the gate that he might sanctify the people by his own blood (13:12), as the one who will never leave us or forsake us but will help us forever by the power of an indestructible life (13:5-6; 7:16).

—John Piper

God is not spoken of as the God of Peace in the Old Testament—but there He is, “a man of war, the Lord is His name.” “He shall cut off the spirit of princes; He is terrible to the kings of the earth.” He is frequently spoken of in the Psalms and the Prophets as, “the Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle,” and it is a part of Israel’s praise of Him that He slew mighty kings. Constantly, in the older volume of Inspiration, do we read of, “the Lord of Hosts,” and of this title an old Divine says, “It has the sound of hostility in it.” But now we no longer speak of the Lord of Hosts, but of the God of Peace, for, since Jesus is our Peace, the enmity is slain. The Messiah’s reign began with songs in Heaven of, “peace on earth, goodwill towards men.” His errand was peace! His spirit was peace! His teaching was peace! His last testament was peace and, through His atonement, from the opened heavens, the God of Peace and Consolation looks down upon the sons of men!

—C.H. Spurgeon

Although every Christian is justified by faith in Christ and so has a judicial peace with God, yet we never can enjoy perfect peace with our own consciences so long as any sin is committed by us, or dwells in us. So long as there shall remain a solitary tendency to sin within these members, we shall be disturbed. Sin will contend with Grace and Grace will war with inbred sin. Sin and Grace can no more agree than fire and water. Even the God of Peace never tries to establish a peace between good and evil, for it would be monstrous even if it were possible! The way to peace is the way of holiness. Cast out sin and you cast out contention. Subdue iniquity and peace wins the victory.

—C.H. Spurgeon

Beloved, it is of no use for us to seek happiness in life except by the way of holiness. We have peace with God only through the atoning work of our Lord Jesus Christ—but for real peace, the deep calm of heart and quiet of conscience there must be a work of sanctification within us worked by the power which raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Sin is our enemy and the new life within us is heartily at enmity with evil and, therefore, peace can never be proclaimed in the kingdom of our nature until we always do that which is well-pleasing in the sight of the Lord, through Jesus Christ.

—C.H. Spurgeon

John 15:4-5

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. (5) I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

“You and I have been given a new heart at the time of our conversion. A fundamental change has indeed taken place in our inner being. We really are new creations in Christ...But the power is still outside of us. It resides in Jesus Christ and is applied to our hearts by the Holy Spirit as we depend on Him. This is why Paul makes such statements as ‘I can do everything through Him who gives me strength’ (Phil. 4:13)... Paul expected to grow in his own spiritual life...His confidence, however, was not based on his own ability or determination but in the fact that he could rely on the power of Christ working in him to enable him.”

—Jerry Bridges

That which we do, even when the Lord works in us, we only do through Jesus Christ! We are nothing without our Lord and though we do what is acceptable in the Lord’s sight, it is only acceptable through Jesus Christ! What nothings and nobodies we are! Even when the Lord does the most for us that can be done, so that we dwell in His sight and our actions become well-pleasing to Him and He looks upon us with delight—yet even then we are nothing! It is the Lord that has worked all in us, even the God of Peace, who is All in All!

—C.H. Spurgeon