



THE SIGNAL

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR SUPPORTERS
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BROADCASTING NETWORK

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We are happy to bring to our listeners the ministry of Charles Haddon Spurgeon on our "Pillars of Preaching Program." Here we highlight the ministries of preachers from the past.

C. H. Spurgeon has been referred to as "The Prince of Preachers." He lived during the reign of Queen Victoria and pastored the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, England, the largest non-conformist church in the world at that time. [Attendance numbered over 6,000 during the decades he pastored the church. During that time, some 14,000 sought membership.]

Spurgeon was the son and grandson of congregational preachers. Due to their influence he was steeped in the writings of Puritan preachers. In 1850, the fifteen-year-old was under deep conviction of sin. He was away from home at school. He had decided to visit every church in the city until he found the answer for his burdened heart. Because of an unusually cold and snowy Sunday, he was unable to attend the church he had decided on and instead slipped into a chapel with only a handful of people in attendance. The minister was not able to get there. A layman stood up and quoted Isaiah 45:22, saying, "Look unto Me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth." Here is what Spurgeon said of the man's efforts:

"The preached Word...addressed to me by a poor, uneducated man, a man who had never received any training for the ministry, and probably will never be heard of in this life, a man engaged in business, no doubt of a humble kind, during the week, but who had just enough of grace to say on the Sabbath, 'Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth.' The revealed Word awakened me; but it was the preached Word that saved me."

Lewis Drummond pastored Glen Iris Baptist Church during the 1950s. He later became a faculty member at Spurgeon's College, a minister training institute founded by Spurgeon in London. There he became fascinated by Spurgeon's amazing life and ministry. He had access to a trove of information, letters, sermons, and historical artifacts—all of

which led him to write a definitive biography on his life entitled *Spurgeon: Prince of Preachers* [Kregel Publications, 1992]. Lewis writes this:

"It is understandable why Spurgeon attracted so much praise. The sheer mountain of work he produced through his London years was phenomenal. During the nearly four decades of ministry, he added over 14,000 new members to his church. Two thousand two hundred and forty one of Spurgeon's sermons were published up to the time of his death in 1892. After his death, a weekly publication of one of his messages was produced until 1917. Spurgeon's Sunday sermon was even wired across the Atlantic to America and printed in the Monday edition of secular newspapers. An estimate of up to 300 million copies of his sermons and books have been printed. During his life the whole evangelical world seemed to hang on his words; and he is still constantly republished to this day. He became a household word, and remains so to this moment in many evangelical circles. At any rate, there are more books, at least religious works, in print today by Spurgeon—more than a century after his death—than any living or dead English writing author." [IBID p. 25]

While there are no sound recordings of Spurgeon's speaking voice [it was said to have been booming and melodic as he preached], others have recorded some of his messages. We are thrilled to bring the ministry of C. H. Spurgeon to the Where God Is Blessing Broadcasting Network family. "He being dead yet speaketh." [Hebrews 11:4] We endeavor to bring you the best and soundest Bible preaching and teaching available.

May the Lord bless you, dear listeners and supporters! We could not carry on this great work without you.

Your servant,
Chris Lamb

PILLARS OF PREACHING

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY AT 7:00 P.M.

SPURGEON'S MORNING AND EVENING – WEEKDAYS AT 6:55 A.M., & 8:30 P.M.

Pillars of Preaching features sermons by faithful preachers from the past and present who expounded the inerrant Scriptures and presented these truths as they are intended by God. For a number of weeks, we are featuring the sermons of C. H. Spurgeon on WGIB.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon has been called England's greatest contribution of the gospel in the nineteenth century. One of his contemporaries said that the chief secret of Spurgeon's attractiveness was the fact that in every sermon no matter what the text or occasion, he explained the way of salvation in simple terms.

Spurgeon was born in Kelvedon, Essex on June 19, 1834. Spurgeon related the details of his conversion to Christ, occurring on January 6, 1850, at age 15. On his way to a scheduled appointment, a snowstorm forced him to cut short his intended journey and to turn into a primitive Methodist chapel in Newtown, Colchester, where he said God opened his heart to salvation and he believed in Christ. The text that moved him was Isaiah 45:22, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is none else." Later that same year he moved to Cambridge, where he later became a Sunday school teacher. Spurgeon preached his first sermon in the winter of 1850 in a cottage located in the village of Teversham, England. In April 1854, just four years after his conversion, Spurgeon, then only 19 years old, was called to the pastorate of London's famed New Park Street Chapel which was formerly pastored by Benjamin Keach and theologian John Gill. This was the largest Baptist congregation in London at the time. The following year the first of his sermons were published in the *New Park Street Pulpit* publication. The sermons were printed every week in large circulation. By the time of his death in 1892, he had preached nearly 3,600 sermons and published 49 volumes of commentaries, sayings, anecdotes, illustrations and devotions. The institutions which he founded, and for which he remained responsible, included a college to train pastors; a publications enterprise [with a weekly published sermon and a monthly magazine called *The Sword and the Trowel*]; an orphanage; the Colportage Association to spread Christian literature; and, above all, the Metropolitan Tabernacle itself, opened for the church he served in 1861 and capable of seating about 6,000 people.

Spurgeon's messages remain one of the great treasure houses of Christian literature, still bringing the light of the gospel and the comfort of the Scriptures to hungry souls long after his death on January 31, 1892, in Menton, France.

Spurgeon's sermons, currently being aired on WGIB's *Pillars of Preaching* program, are taken from his complete sermon transcriptions and are voiced by Charles Koelsch who has recorded over 400 of Spurgeon's sermons to date.

Spurgeon's *Morning and Evening* daily devotional focuses on deep biblical and theological truths in a concise and practical way. Bill Neff is the voice of the *Morning and Evening* radio program in which he shares these daily treasures that inform the mind and ignite the heart to the truths of Scripture. The readings have been revised and edited only to make them easily understood by today's hearer.

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107.9 TUSCALOOSA
106.1 MOODY/ODENVILLE
101.5 COLUMBIANA



106.1 JASPER
92.3 SPRINGVILLE
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