

THE OLD, OLD STORY

"In due time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6).

by **Charles Haddon Spurgeon**

There is a doctor of divinity here tonight who listened to me some years ago. He has been back to his own dwelling in America. I could not help fancying, as I saw his face just now, that he would think I was doting on the old subject, that I had not advanced a single inch on any new domain of thought, but was preaching the same old Gospel in the same old terms as ever.

If he should think so, he will be quite right.

I suppose I am something like the boy whose father told him to wait in a gateway till he came back. The father went about the city, and amidst his numerous cares he forgot the boy. Night came and the father remembered: "Dear me, I left him early in the morning and I told him to stay there until I came for him." So the father went, and there he found the boy!

Such a childish, simple faithfulness is no disgrace

His blessing. Here, then, I stand at the foot of the cross and tell of the old, old story, stale though it may sound to itching ears, and worn threadbare as critics may deem it. It is of Christ I love to speak; of Christ who loved, and lived, and died—the substitute for sinners, the just for the unjust—that He might bring us to God.

Just as they say fish go bad at the head first, so modern divines generally go bad first upon the head and main doctrine of the substitutionary work of Christ. Nearly all our modern errors begin with mistakes about Christ. Men do not like to be always preaching the same thing. They are not content to tell over and over again the simple message, "He that believeth in the Lord Jesus Christ hath everlasting life."

The doctrine of atonement they mystify. Reconciliation by the precious blood of Jesus ceases to be the cornerstone. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11). On this rock there is security.

Christian, if this be true that there is an atonement made for sin, tell it, tell it, tell it. Tell it in your house; tell it by the fireside. Tell it to your children. Tell it often, for thus you will have the better hope that you may turn sinners to Christ.

Tell the story that Christ died for the ungodly. ■

to emulate. I received some years ago orders from my Master to stand at the foot of the cross until He came. He has not come yet, but I mean to stand there till He does.

If I should disobey His orders and leave those simple truths which have been the means of the conversion of souls, I know not how I could expect

Condensed from a sermon preached at the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London on March 30, 1862. Original work is in the Public Domain.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1893), often called "The Prince of Preachers," preached more than 3,000 sermons over a long ministry at London's Metropolitan Tabernacle.

Scripture quotations are taken from The Holy Bible, King James Version.