

# THE PERSONAL TESTIMONY

by  
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*"As among all the doctrines of the gospel, there is none opposed with more violence and subtlety than that concerning **OUR REGENERATION BY THE IMMEDIATE, POWERFUL, EFFECTUAL OPERATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GRACE**; so there is not scarce anything more despised or scorned by many in the world **THAN THAT ANY SHOULD PROFESS THAT THERE HATH BEEN SUCH A WORK OF GOD UPON THEMSELVES, OR ON ANY OCCASION DECLARE OUGHT OF THE WAY AND MANNER WHEREBY IT WAS WROUGHT... THE HOLY WORK OF GOD'S SPIRIT IS TO BE OWNED.**" John Owen, A discourse Touching The Holy Spirit*

*"Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee." **Mark 5:19***

**M**y testimony has been boldly proclaimed on my website since day one. As John Owen stated in the quotation above, I have *OWNED* the holy work of God's Spirit, and I have *DECLARED* the way and manner whereby it was wrought upon me.

**T**hat's because, like the demoniac in the above verse, and like the Apostle Paul, like John Bunyan, like George Whitefield, like Charles Spurgeon, and like *ALL GENUINELY* born again Christians, I absolutely, utterly *DELIGHT AND REJOICE* in giving my *PERSONAL TESTIMONY*, that is, in telling people "*how great things the Lord hath done for ME,*" -- not what the Lord has done in *GENERAL*, but rather, what the Lord hath done for *ME* -- for there is *NOTHING* that glorifies Jesus Christ *MORE* than *THE PERSONAL TESTIMONY* of a redeemed sinner. *NOTHING.*

**I** say, there is *NOTHING* that I or *ANY GENUINELY* born again Christian can do to glorify Jesus Christ, or can delight in more, than in giving our *PERSONAL TESTIMONY.* It was so with Paul, it was so with Bunyan, it was so with Whitefield, it was so with Spurgeon, and it has been so with *EVERY GENUINELY* born again Christian throughout history.

**M**oreover, although I had never heard of John Calvin, nor knew the first thing about *CALVINISM* itself, my testimony is *THOROUGHLY* Calvinistic. Indeed -- and I know whereof I speak, because I was *THERE* -- indeed, even though I have left much out, disclosing only the bare bones, as it were, read it carefully and you will discover that my testimony is *CALVINISTIC* through and through. But then, so it is with *EVERY ONE* that is born of the Spirit, and that according to the Word of God. There are *NO* exceptions. None whatsoever.

**T**he reason you don't find *PERSONAL TESTIMONIES* on the *VAST MAJORITY* of websites today, or hear *PERSONAL TESTIMONIES* from the *VAST MAJORITY* of preachers today, or hear *PERSONAL TESTIMONIES* from the *VAST MAJORITY* of professing Christians today, is because they don't *HAVE* one. That goes for Reformed and Arminian alike, or whatever camp you want to name. In short, the *VAST MAJORITY* of those who profess to be Christians today don't *HAVE* a *PERSONAL TESTIMONY*, especially not a *GENUINE* one. If they did, they would post it on their websites, and they would speak of it often, as Paul did, as Spurgeon did, as Bunyan did, as *EVERY ONE* that is born of the Spirit does. The history of Christianity, beginning with the Apostles, confirms this truth *DRAMATICALLY*. As one saint noted --

"A sinner saved by grace will always refer in his **TESTIMONY** to the **MOMENT** at which he **EXPERIENCED** new birth... You must be invaded by the Spirit of God by means of **SUPERNATURAL** recreation... **BEWARE OF THE TENDENCY TO WATER DOWN THE SUPERNATURAL IN RELIGION.**" *Oswald Chambers, Bringing Sons Unto Glory & Approved Unto God*

**E**very time the Apostle Paul was brought before a tribunal, as recorded in the extremely short time-span in the book of Acts, the first thing he did was launch into his *PERSONAL TESTIMONY*. Further, you will find Paul *CONSTANTLY* referring to his *PERSONAL TESTIMONY* throughout his Epistles. In the very brief accounts we have from Peter, you will likewise find him doing the same. So with John in his three Epistles.

**T**he number of times Charles Spurgeon gave or talked about his conversion, that is, his *PERSONAL TESTIMONY*, only God knows. Same with Bunyan, who, besides the accounts he gives us in his theological treatises, gives us in his *GRACE ABOUNDING* the most rending and prolific *PERSONAL TESTIMONY* ever penned. Time would fail me to elaborate on this score.

**T**hat's because, as I said, there is *NOTHING* that *GLORIFIES* Jesus Christ *MORE*, or that *DELIGHTS* the redeemed sinner *MORE*, than in giving *THE PERSONAL TESTIMONY*, and *EVERY ONE* that is born of the Spirit *KNOWS IT*.

**S**adly, it is extraordinarily rare to hear a *GENUINE* testimony today. Most testimonies - in the scarce instance that somebody actually gives one, that is -- consist of **I, I, I, I...**

**I** walked down an aisle; **I** made a decision; **I** said a prayer; **I** accepted Christ... **I, I, I, I.**

And so on ad nauseam. These are *ALL* false -- I say, *FALSE* -- testimonies. *FALSE* testimonies through and through. *COUNTERFEIT* testimonies through and through. Every single one.

*A* *GENUINE* testimony reveals what *JESUS CHRIST DID*, just as my testimony does, just as Paul's testimony on the road to Damascus does, just as Bunyan's testimony in *GRACE ABOUNDING* does, and just as *ALL GENUINELY* born again Christians' testimonies do.

*T*he fact is, I don't care what *YOU* did, whether it was making a "*decision*" or "*walking down an aisle*" or "*saying the sinner's prayer*," or what-have-you. No, I don't care what *YOU* did. Neither does God, the *FIRST CAUSE* in regeneration and salvation. Glorify yourself some other time. My interest is in the glory of Jesus Christ. Accordingly, I don't care in the *LEAST* what *YOU* did. Rather, I want to know -- *WHAT DID JESUS CHRIST DO???*

*T*ell you what... I'll come back to that in a moment, for we are in the arena of *SOVEREIGN GRACE* now...

*A*ccordingly, let it be known that the anti-Calvin schizophrenia and hysteria that is erupting from certain quarters today is nothing but the fruit of a condemned soul which *HAS NO GENUINE TESTIMONY*, for the ranter knows that if *CALVINISM* is true, which it is, then he is not saved. That's the ranter's dilemma, and he cannot come to terms with it, even though the Scripture could not possibly be plainer, but rather than humbling himself under the *SOVEREIGN* hand of Jesus Christ, his proud but blind and stupid spirit always resists the Holy Ghost, and thus, as Jesus Christ declared, he *CANNOT* believe *SAVINGLY* because he is not of Jesus Christ's sheep, for in order to believe on Jesus Christ -- in order to believe *SAVINGLY* -- one must *FIRST* be *REGENERATED*, for it takes *SUPERNATURAL FAITH* which flows *FROM* regeneration to believe *SAVINGLY*. [Acts 7:51; John 10:26]

"All the professors that **HAVE NOT FAITH WHICH FLOWETH FROM BEING BORN OF GOD**, will seek to enter in [to heaven], **AND SHALL NOT BE ABLE.**" *John Bunyan, The Strait Gate*

*I*f a person could exercise *SAVING FAITH* by his own natural ability, then *REGENERATION* would not be necessary, and if the natural man had *FREE WILL*, then he would not require *POWER* -- *EXPERIENTIAL POWER* -- to become a son of God. [John 1:12-13; Ephesians 1, Ephesians 2:8; &c]

The reason *PROFESSING* Christians can't comprehend this, and the reason *PROFESSING* Christians deny *CALVINISM* in general, is because they have *NEVER EXPERIENCED REGENERATION*; they have *NEVER EXPERIENCED THE RESURRECTION POWER* of Jesus Christ in the *MIRACLE* of the *NEW BIRTH*, which, by the way, is how a person *KNOWS* he's *ELECT*, for once Jesus Christ has *PERSONALLY* introduced *HIMSELF* to a man, and *INDWELT* that man, and made that man a *NEW CREATURE*, that man *KNOWS* -- *KNOWS INFALLIBLY* -- that he is *ELECT*. And in fact, that's the *ONLY* way a man may *KNOW* that he is *ELECT*, that is, by *EXPERIENCING* the very *RESURRECTION POWER* of Jesus Christ in the *MIRACLE* of the *NEW BIRTH*. There *AIN'T* no exceptions.

Thus, you may take it as *AXIOMATIC* that he who asks how a man knows if he's *ELECT* or not, and that he who believes man has *FREE WILL* in his natural state, and believes that man is capable of exercising *SAVING FAITH* in his natural state, aye, you may take it as *AXIOMATIC* that such a man is *INFALLIBLY UNREGENERATE*, that such a man has *NEVER EXPERIENCED THE RESURRECTION POWER* of Jesus Christ in the *MIRACLE* of the *NEW BIRTH*, for in the *MOMENT* -- the very *MOMENT* -- a man *EXPERIENCES* the *MIRACLE* of the *NEW BIRTH*, in that very *MOMENT*, his histrionics against *CALVINISM* cease. Utterly and completely. And he -- from that very *MOMENT* - - becomes a strong proponent of *CALVINISM* himself, since *CALVINISM* is nothing but *SOUND BIBLICAL DOCTRINE*. There are *NO* exceptions. None at all, including John Wesley, who was not only *MANIFESTLY UNREGENERATE*, but who was in fact a devil incarnate, as the *TRUE* history of him and his life is just beginning to reveal. Click [HERE](#) for an example. No, there are *NO* exceptions. None.

Does that mean that all *CALVINISTS* are saved? Not by a long shot. In fact, *MOST* Calvinists today -- of those I'm aware of, that is -- are clearly *NOT* regenerate, for in their *PERSONAL PRACTICE* they unknowingly and unwittingly *DENY* certain of the critical elements of *CALVINISM* that they otherwise teach, particularly in the way and manner of how to *PERSONALLY* be saved, of how to *PERSONALLY* be *REGENERATED*, and that's one reason you don't find *PERSONAL TESTIMONIES* on *CALVINIST* websites any more than you do on anti-*CALVINIST* websites, viz., they don't *HAVE* a testimony. Not a *GENUINE* testimony. There just happens to be a certain Scriptural logic to *CALVINISM* that even the *CARNAL* man can find purchase in, for even the *CARNAL* mind can recognize *PLAIN TRUTH* as presented in the Scriptures. It's the *SPIRITUAL* comprehension of those truths that evade the *CARNAL* mind, and it is the *SPIRITUAL* truths *ONLY* that have any genuine efficacy.

Those who *DENY CALVINISM*, however, not only harm themselves, but others as well, for they present a *FALSE* gospel, which is *NOTHING* but a gospel of *PRIDE* -- *NOTHING* but a gospel of *PURE, UNADULTERATED PRIDE* -- a gospel of *HUMAN SELF-SUFFICIENCY*, and therefore a gospel which prevents *ALL* who heed it from

coming to the point of such *HUMILIATION* that they are *RIPE* for the *NEW BIRTH*. In short, the anti-CALVINIST effectively slams the door on *GENUINE GRACE*, and thus, Satan *ADORES* the anti-CALVINIST.

**A**s my testimony reveals, and as *ALL* genuine testimonies reveal, I *BELIEVED* in Jesus Christ *AFTER* he made me a new creature; I *TRUSTED* in Christ *AFTER* he indwelt me; I *LOVED* Jesus Christ *AFTER* he regenerated me; I *CAME* (like Lazarus), aye, I *CAME* to Jesus Christ *AFTER* he raised me from the dead (just as Lazarus *CAME* to Jesus Christ *AFTER* he was quickened and raised from the dead, *AFTER* he was made alive and delivered from the grave, *AFTER* he was loosed from the bondage of death); indeed, I *COMMITTED* my soul to Jesus Christ *AFTER* he gave me *SUPERNATURAL FAITH*, &c -- and so it is with *EVERY ONE* that is born of the Spirit.

**O**nly the feeble-minded and willful liars equate biblical *COMMANDS* with *HUMAN* ability, that is, *FLESHLY* ability. I say, only the *FEEBLE-MINDED* and *WILLFUL LIARS* equate biblical *COMMANDS* with *HUMAN* ability, that is, *FLESHLY* ability, and thereby demonstrate that they know *NOTHING* of *EXPERIENTIAL REGENERATION*, and that they have *NO SPIRITUAL COMPREHENSION* of the major doctrines of the Scripture, such as *ORIGINAL SIN*, the *DEPRAVITY OF MAN*, and the *NECESSITY* of the *MIRACLE* of the *NEW BIRTH* by the very *RESURRECTION POWER OF JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF*, &c. [John 6:37; 6:44; 6:63; Romans 3:20; &c]

**F**or the *ELECT*, on the other hand, they realize that it takes *SUPERNATURAL* ability to become a *TRUE* Christian, aye, the *ELECT* are given the *GRACE* to *SEE* and *FEEL* that they are *HELPLESS* -- *UTTERLY HELPLESS* -- with regard to spiritual matters, and that it will thus take a *MIRACLE* -- a bona fide *SUPERNATURAL MIRACLE* -- for them to be regenerated, saved, born again, and that it is *IMPOSSIBLE* to become a Christian -- a *TRUE* Christian, without such a *MIRACLE*. Absolutely, utterly *IMPOSSIBLE*.

**O**h yes, I *THOUGHT* I believed in Jesus before I was born again, but it was only *AFTER* I was born again that I realized that my faith was *FLESHLY FAITH*, not *SUPERNATURAL FAITH* given from above. Oh yes, I *THOUGHT* I had *FREE WILL* before I was born again, but it was only *AFTER* I was born again, when I was given a *NEW WILL*, that I realized that my old will was *ENSLAVED* and taken captive by the devil at *HIS* will, just as the Scriptures affirm, and so forth and so on, and he who *CANNOT* make the same claims is he who *INFALLIBLY* is *NOT* born again. There are *NO* exceptions. [Ephesians 2:8; 2 Timothy 2:26 &c]

**T**he wise man will *CAREFULLY* ponder the following quotations --

"WHEN THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME TO ME WITH POWER, it was as new as if I had lived among the unvisited tribes of Central Africa, and

had never heard the tidings of the cleansing fountain filled with blood, drawn from the Saviour's veins... **WHEN I FIRST DISCOVERED WHAT FAITH REALLY WAS, AND EXERCISED IT** -- for with me these two things came together, **I BELIEVED AS SOON AS EVER I KNEW WHAT BELIEVING MEANT** -- then I thought I had never before heard that truth preached." *Charles Spurgeon, Autobiography -- The Great Change - Conversion*

**"NONE OF US BELIEVE BY NATURE:** but after the Holy Ghost has convinced us of the sin of our natures, and the sin of our lives and duties, in order to convince us of our utter inability to save ourselves, **AND THAT WE MUST BE BEHOLDEN TO GOD, AS FOR EVERYTHING ELSE, SO FOR FAITH** (without which it is impossible to please, or be saved by Christ) **HE CONVINCES US ALSO, THAT WE HAVE NO FAITH."** *George Whitefield, Sermon, The Holy Spirit Convincing The World Of Sin, Righteousness, And Judgment*

"How long have you believed? Would not most of you say, as long as we can remember; we never did disbelieve? **THEN THIS IS A CERTAIN SIGN THAT YOU HAVE NO TRUE FAITH AT ALL, NO, NOT SO MUCH AS A GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED...** you must know that there was a time in which you did not believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, **AND THE HOLY GHOST, IF EVER YOU RECEIVED HIM, CONVINCED YOU OF YOUR UNBELIEF."** *George Whitefield, The Holy Spirit Convincing The World Of Sin, Righteousness, And Judgment*

**M**ultitudes, even *MULTITUDES*, think they are born again when they are not, even though they can give no *GENUINE* evidence of such. And so I ask -- do you really think you're born again? Really? If so, what *EVIDENCE* can you give? I say, what *EVIDENCE* -- *SUPERNATURAL EVIDENCE* -- can you give? *MULTITUDES*, even *MULTITUDES*, are deceived herein.

**I** walked down an aisle; **I** made a decision; **I** said a prayer; **I** accepted Christ... **I, I, I, I.**

**A**s I said, a *GENUINE* testimony reveals what *JESUS CHRIST DID*, just as my testimony does, just as Paul's testimony on the road to Damascus does, just as Bunyan's testimony in *GRACE ABOUNDING* does, and just as *ALL GENUINELY* born again Christians' do.

**A**nd as I also said, I don't care what *YOU* did, whether it was making a "*decision*" or "*walking down an aisle*" or "*saying the sinner's prayer*," or what-have-you. No, I don't care what *YOU* did. Neither does God, the *FIRST CAUSE* in regeneration and salvation. Glorify yourself some other time. My interest is in the glory of Jesus Christ. Accordingly, I don't care in the *LEAST* what *YOU* did. Rather, I want to know -- *WHAT DID JESUS CHRIST DO???*

"MANY will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **AND THEN WILL I PROFESS UNTO THEM, I NEVER KNEW YOU: DEPART FROM ME, YE THAT WORK INIQUITY.**"  
**Matthew 7:22-23**

**T**he *ONLY* people Jesus Christ will *NOT* say those words to are the people to whom he has *PERSONALLY -- PERSONALLY -- INTRODUCED HIMSELF*. Because Jesus Christ has *PERSONALLY* introduced *HIMSELF* to me, he will never speak those words to me, for it is not possible for God to lie, and thus, since Jesus Christ *DOES* know me -- because Jesus Christ has *PERSONALLY* introduced *HIMSELF* to me -- Jesus Christ will therefore *NEVER* say that he does *NOT* know me, as he will to those who are eternally damned, to those who *PROFESS* to be Christians but who *CANNOT HONESTLY -- HONESTLY AND LEGITIMATELY* -- testify that Jesus Christ has *PERSONALLY* introduced *HIMSELF* to them. There are *NO* exceptions.

**A**s Bunyan said, not only will the world be shocked at how *FEW* will be saved, but, as Bunyan also noted, the world will likewise be shocked by the personages who will *NOT* enter the kingdom of heaven. Great names -- great "Christian" names -- will shock the world on that day when the Lord Jesus Christ stares at them with utter scorn and contempt and says to them, "*Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire.*" [Matthew 25:41]

**A**nd make no mistake -- Jesus Christ will say that to *ALL* who cannot *HONESTLY* and *LEGITIMATELY* testify to an *UNMISTAKABLE SUPERNATURAL EXPERIENCE* in the *MIRACLE* of the *NEW BIRTH*. There are no exceptions. The most conservative, devout professors of faith in Jesus Christ will be utterly *SHOCKED* when Jesus Christ spurns and disdains them in that day.

**T**here are conservative, devout professors of faith in Jesus Christ who don't *DREAM* that these words are true of them, but they will be *SHOCKED* on the day of judgment to find that those words *ARE* true of them, and that even their preaching of the gospel is *EVIL* in the sight of God -- yes, that even their preaching of the gospel is in fact an *ABOMINATION* in the sight of God -- because their preaching and their teaching is *ALL FLESH -- ALL FLESH*, which is an *ABOMINATION* in the sight of God, no matter how righteously they may appear before men -- for they cannot *HONESTLY* and *LEGITIMATELY* testify to an *UNMISTAKABLE SUPERNATURAL EXPERIENCE* in the *MIRACLE* of the *NEW BIRTH*, and thus they will be without excuse, for the Scriptures and the history of genuine saints will rise up and utterly condemn them for their lack of *SUPERNATURAL* faith, and *SUPERNATURAL* experience. There will be *NO* exceptions.

The great prayer warrior E. M. Bounds' observation was never truer than of this generation of apostate, unregenerate preachers --

"Preaching is to give life; **IT MAY KILL...** This letter-preaching has the truth. **BUT EVEN DIVINE TRUTH HAS NO LIFE-GIVING ENERGY ALONE; IT MUST BE ENERGIZED BY THE SPIRIT**, with all God's forces at its back. **TRUTH UNQUICKENED BY GOD'S SPIRIT DEADENS AS MUCH AS -- OR MORE THAN -- ERROR.** It may be the truth without admixture; **BUT WITHOUT THE SPIRIT ITS SHADE AND TOUCH ARE DEADLY, ITS TRUTH ERROR, ITS LIGHT DARKNESS.**" *E. M. Bounds, Power Through Prayer*

Today's preachers and writers have no clue what that means. No clue whatsoever.

As has been stated by the Puritans and others, *EVERY SINGLE CONVERSION* -- every single *GENUINE* conversion -- is *IDENTICAL* to that of the Apostle Paul's -- not in *MANIFESTATION* necessarily, but in *METHODOLOGY*.

*EVERY GENUINELY* born again Christian can testify, like Paul, that he was *ARRESTED IN HIS TRACKS*, that he was *ARRESTED IN HIS TRACKS BY NONE OTHER THAN JESUS CHRIST*. By Jesus Christ *HIMSELF*. In *EVERY GENUINE CONVERSION* Jesus Christ *HIMSELF* shows up, not in the same *PHYSICAL MANIFESTATION* as he did with Paul, certainly *NEVER* bodily, but nevertheless, in *EVERY GENUINE CONVERSION* Jesus Christ *HIMSELF* shows up just as *REALLY* as he did with Paul. I say, just as *REALLY* as he did with Paul -- and I *MEAN*, just as *REALLY* as he did with Paul -- and as with Paul, in *EVERY GENUINE CONVERSION*, the sinner is *ARRESTED IN HIS TRACKS BY JESUS CHRIST*. By Jesus Christ *HIMSELF*. Again, there are *NO* exceptions.

"HE THAT HAS HAD A CLEAR SIGHT OF THE SPIRITUAL GLORY OF CHRIST MAY SAY, I have not followed cunningly devised fables, but have been an eyewitness of his majesty, **UPON AS GOOD GROUNDS AS THE APOSTLE PETER**, when he had respect to the outward glory of Christ that he had seen." *Jonathan Edwards, A Divine And Supernatural Light*

Of course, it doesn't *GET* any more *CALVINISTIC* than Paul's conversion. Paul's conversion is in fact *CLASSIC CALVINISM*. And so it is with *EVERY ONE* that is born of the Spirit. *EVERY ONE*. There never *HAS* been an exception to this methodology in God's salvation of sinners, there is no exception to this methodology *NOW*, nor will there *EVER* be an exception to this methodology. Not in this world; not in the world to come.

**A**s Paul magnified his office for the sake of the elect, so I magnify my testimony to demonstrate that Jesus Christ operates today just as he did two thousand years ago. And thus I tell you, I am not special -- what Jesus Christ did for me, he does for *ALL* who are *GENUINELY* born again. Not necessarily in *MANIFESTATION*, but in *METHODOLOGY*. No exceptions. [**Romans 11:13**]

**J**esus Christ *PERSONALLY* introduced himself to me; Jesus Christ *PERSONALLY* introduced himself to Paul; Jesus Christ *PERSONALLY* introduced himself to John Bunyan, George Whitefield, Jonathan Edwards -- Jesus Christ has *PERSONALLY* introduced himself to *EVERY ONE* that is born of the Spirit. *NO* exceptions.

**W**hen did Jesus Christ *PERSONALLY* introduce himself to *YOU*? What *EVIDENCE* can you give that he did so? I say, what *EVIDENCE* -- *SUPERNATURAL EVIDENCE* -- can you give that he did so? *MULTITUDES*, even *MULTITUDES*, are deceived herein, and so are *YOU* if you cannot *HONESTLY* testify that Jesus Christ *ARRESTED YOU IN YOUR TRACKS* -- *SOVEREIGNLY, ELECTINGLY ARRESTED YOU IN YOUR TRACKS* -- and *PERSONALLY* introduced *HIMSELF* to you, and *INDWELT* you -- *SUPERNATURALLY AND MANIFESTLY* -- and made you a *NEW CREATURE*, a creature that did *NOT EXIST* one *MOMENT* before. What *EVIDENCE* can you give?

"The birthright and the blessing go together, **MISS OF ONE, AND THOU SHALL NEVER HAVE THE OTHER.**" *John Bunyan, The Strait Gate*

**W**hat *EVIDENCE* can you give of the *BIRTHRIGHT*? Delude yourself and lose your soul if you will. You'll have the *VAST MAJORITY* of the human race for your companions in everlasting damnation, you'll spend eternity in everlasting torment with the *VAST MAJORITY* of the human race in hell, where the worm never dies, and where the fire is never quenched, unless you repent of your foolish pride and bow at the feet of *SOVEREIGN GRACE*.

"Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and **FEW** there be that find it." *Matthew 7:14*

**I** constantly hear someone say to me, "*There are FEW who can give a testimony like yours.*"

**W**ell now, there's an irony. Let's see... Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory, stated that it is *FEW* that will be saved, and now someone says to me that *FEW* can give a testimony like mine, or like Paul's, or like Bunyan's, or like Spurgeon's, or like *ALL GENUINELY* born again Christians. Isn't that strange? *FEW...FEW*. My, my.

**W**hen did Jesus Christ *ARREST YOU IN YOUR TRACKS -- SOVEREIGNLY, ELECTINGLY ARREST YOU IN YOUR TRACKS --* and *PERSONALLY* introduce *HIMSELF* to you, and *INDWELL YOU*, and make you a *NEW CREATURE*? And what *EVIDENCE -- SUPERNATURAL EVIDENCE --* do you have that he did so?

**A**s Bunyan said, the birthright and the blessing go together, and *EVERY ONE* that is born of the Spirit can give *OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE* of the birthright. *EVERY ONE.*

**I**ntermission: I have a spiritual question for you -- *Are you gnashing your teeth right about now? Or have you taken Jesus Christ at his word and are thus aching and groaning inside in a DESPERATE QUEST to become one of the FEW?*

"Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and **FEW** there be that find it... For many are called, but **FEW** are chosen." *Matthew 7:14; Matthew 22:14*

**I** say -- *Are you gnashing your teeth right about now? Or have you taken Jesus Christ at his word and are thus aching and groaning inside in a DESPERATE QUEST to become one of the FEW?*

**A**nd now here's a biblical question for you -- *In the FIRST sermon that Jesus Christ preached in his own hometown of Nazareth, as recorded in Luke 4, out of the entire land of Israel and its surrounding locales, how many widows were saved? And out of the entire land of Israel and its surrounding locales, how many lepers were saved? How many?*

**O**nly *EIGHT* people were saved out of an *ENTIRE WORLD* in the days of Noah, during which time the population of the earth could have *EXCEEDED ONE BILLION PEOPLE*. Only *THREE* people were saved out of an *ENTIRE METROPOLIS* during the days of Sodom and Gomorrah and their two sister cities, during which time the population of the four cities could have *REACHED INTO THE MILLIONS*. Only *TWO* men were saved out of *SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND* men just prior to the entrance into Canaan during the Exodus. Examples could be multiplied.

"In nature excellent things are few. The world hath not many suns or moons; it is but a little of the earth that is gold or silver; princes and nobles are but a small part of the sons of men. And it is no great number that are learned, judicious, or wise, here in this world. **And therefore if the gate being strait, and the way narrow, there be but FEW that find salvation, yet God will have his glory and pleasure in those FEW... IT HATH BEEN THE ASTONISHING WONDER OF MANY A MAN, AS WELL AS ME, TO READ IN THE**

**HOLY SCRIPTURE, HOW FEW WILL BE SAVED, AND THAT THE GREATEST PART OF EVEN OF THOSE THAT ARE CALLED WILL BE EVERLASTINGLY SHUT OUT OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, AND TORMENTED WITH THE DEVILS IN ETERNAL FIRE."** *Richard Baxter, A Call To The Unconverted*

**"WHEN MEN HAVE PUT IN ALL THE CLAIM THEY CAN FOR HEAVEN, BUT FEW WILL HAVE IT FOR THEIR INHERITANCE. FOR MANY, I SAY UNTO YOU, WILL SEEK TO ENTER IN, AND SHALL NOT BE ABLE.** Great, therefore, will be the disappointment that many will meet with at the day of judgment: **FOR MANY WILL SEEK TO ENTER IN, AND SHALL NOT BE ABLE.** Going to heaven, therefore, will be no trivial business; salvation is not got by a dream; they that would then have that kingdom must now strive lawfully to enter: **'FOR MANY, I SAY UNTO YOU, WILL SEEK TO ENTER IN, AND SHALL NOT BE ABLE'**" *John Bunyan, The Strait Gate*

"Christ has told us that strait is the gate and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life, and **FEW** there be that find it. There have been but **FEW** in all ages of the world. Many seek; and many hope that they shall obtain. There are but **FEW** that intend to be damned; while many hope that they shall some way or other find means to escape eternal misery. **BUT AFTER ALL, THERE ARE BUT FEW SAVED.**" *Jonathan Edwards, The Wisdom Of God*

"Although the greater part of people do foolishly fancy that they have closed with God in Christ Jesus sincerely and heartily; or, at least, they do, without any ground or warrant, promise a new heart to themselves before they depart this life; yet there be but very **FEW** who do really and cordially close with God in Christ Jesus as He is offered in the gospel; **AND SO THERE BE BUT VERY FEW SAVED** -- Strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and **FEW** there be who find it -- If people would believe this, it might help to alarm them." *William Guthrie, The Christian's Great Interest - Part II*

"Duty obliges us, and the holy Scriptures warrant us, **TO ASSURE YOU THAT THERE ARE VERY FEW WHO SHALL BE SAVED;** that the whole world lieth in wickedness; and that **IT IS A LITTLE FLOCK TO WHOM THE FATHER WILL GIVE THE KINGDOM.**" *Henry Scougal, There Are But A Small Number Saved*

"There are only a **FEW** privileged who are translated into the kingdom of God's dear son." *William Gurnall, The Christian In Complete Armour, Vol I, Part Second, Direction II - Second General Part*

"Those who pretend a great difficulty at present, in reconciling the **ETERNAL PERISHING OF THE GREATEST PART OF MANKIND** with those notions we have of the divine goodness, seem not to have sufficiently considered what was contained in our original apostasy from God, nor the righteousness of God in dealing with the angels that sinned... Wherefore, as we ought always to admire sovereign grace in the **FEW** that shall be saved, so we have no ground to reflect on divine goodness **IN THE MULTITUDE THAT PERISH,** especially considering that they all voluntarily continue in their sin and apostasy." *John Owen, Christologia*

**S**o I ask you once again -- *Are you gnashing your teeth right about now? Or have you taken Jesus Christ at his word and are thus aching and groaning inside in a DESPERATE QUEST to become one of the FEW?*

**R**esume: the *VAST* majority of those who profess to be Christians, both Reformed and Arminian, talk about anything and everything these days, regardless of the subject matter -- anything and everything, that is, except for *ONE* thing -- their *PERSONAL TESTIMONY*. In *MOST* cases, you will search in vain to hear them tell "*how great things the Lord hath done for them.*" Utterly in vain.

**T**hat's because, as I said, they don't *HAVE* a testimony. Not a *GENUINE* testimony anyway. He who has a *GENUINE* testimony *CANNOT* keep it silent. It just ain't possible. Not for a *GENUINELY* born again Christian. Ain't possible at all.

**T**he Scriptures *COMMAND* you to *EXAMINE YOURSELF*. I ask therefore -- do *YOU* have a *PERSONAL TESTIMONY*? [2 Corinthians 13:5]

"Some are so ignorant that they know not what **SELF-EXAMINATION** is, nor what a minister means when he persuadeth them to try themselves, **OR THEY KNOW NOT THAT THERE IS ANY NECESSITY OF IT... THEY HAVE AS GROSS CONCEITS OF THAT REGENERATION, WHICH THEY MUCH SEARCH FOR, AS NICODEMUS HAD.** And when they should try whether the Spirit be in them, they are like those that knew not whether there were a Holy Ghost to be received or no... **THE MOST COMMON AND DANGEROUS IMPEDIMENT IS THAT FALSE FAITH AND HOPE, COMMONLY CALLED PRESUMPTION, WHICH BEARS UP THE HEARTS OF THE MOST OF THE WORLD, AND SO KEEPS THEM FROM SUSPECTING THEIR DANGER.**" *Richard Baxter, The Saints' Everlasting Rest*

"He that believeth the Scriptures to be the Word of God, believeth that men **MUST BE BORN AGAIN**, and also be **PARTAKERS OF THAT FAITH WHICH IS OF THE OPERATION OF GOD** [supernatural faith: Scott Jones], according as he hath read and believed, **OR ELSE HE MUST AND SHALL BE DAMNED.** And he that believeth this aright **WILL NOT BE CONTENTED** until, according as it is written, he **DO PARTAKE OF and ENJOY the NEW BIRTH**, and until he do find, through grace, **THAT FAITH WHICH IS WROUGHT BY THE OPERATION OF GOD IN HIS SOUL.** For this is the cause why men do satisfy themselves with so slender a **CONCEITED HOPE** that their state is good, when it is nothing so, namely, **because they do not credit the Scripture;** for did they, they would look into their own hearts, and **EXAMINE SERIOUSLY** whether that faith, that hope, that grace which they **THINK** they have, be of that nature, and wrought by that spirit and power **THAT THE SCRIPTURE SPEAKETH OF.** I speak this of an **EFFECTUAL BELIEVING**, without which all other is nothing unto salvation." *John Bunyan, A Few Sighs From Hell*

**D**o YOU have a *PERSONAL TESTIMONY*? A *GENUINE PERSONAL TESTIMONY*? Don't fake it. That will only add more wrath to you on the day of judgment.

**I**nstead, inquire at the feet of Jesus Christ. *GO* to Jesus Christ -- not to the pastor, not to the priest, not to the spiritual man down the street -- *GO TO JESUS CHRIST*.

**Y**es, it will take *GRACE -- SUPERNATURAL GRACE* -- to *EFFECTUALLY OBEY* that command. I say, to *EFFECTUALLY OBEY* that command, it will take *GRACE -- SUPERNATURAL GRACE*. Anyhow, *GO TO JESUS CHRIST*, and if you find that you can't go, if you find that you can't go *EFFECTUALLY* -- which is to say, if you find that when you go you don't *EXPERIENCE* the very *RESURRECTION POWER* of Jesus Christ -- thus, if you find that you can't go *EFFECTUALLY* thereby -- then you will need *POWER*, aye, you will need *SUPERNATURAL POWER FROM ABOVE*, you will need *RESURRECTION POWER*, and I can't help you there. There is only *ONE PERSON* who can help you in that case...

**H**is name is Jesus Christ, so, as I said, Inquire at the feet of Jesus Christ *HIMSELF*. Ask and it *SHALL* be given you; seek and you *SHALL* find; knock and it *SHALL* be opened unto you, for Jesus Christ -- Jesus Christ *HIMSELF* -- promises. But don't stop short. Lay hold on eternal life, aye, lay hold on Jesus Christ *HIMSELF*. [Matthew 7:7]

**F**arewell, and the Lord Jesus give you a *PERSONAL TESTIMONY* not to be repented of.