

“Charles Spurgeon is without question one of my favorite preachers of all time: profoundly Christ-centered, warmly experiential, and delightfully practical. Seldom is my soul not deeply stirred after reading and pondering one of his sermons. Of the nearly 4,000 sermons that Spurgeon preached in his lifetime, Jeff Medders has adapted 75 of Spurgeon’s choice messages on the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus into 40 savory devotionals, each of which ends with heart-searching, reflective questions and prayers which foster meditation, application, and doxology. The selections in this volume are not only ideal for preparation in the season before Easter but are applicable for every part of the year as well. I am confident that after reading this devotional, you will want more of Spurgeon—and above all, more of the Christ whom this ‘prince of preachers’ so beautifully proclaimed.”

Joel R. Beeke, Chancellor and Professor of Homiletics &  
Systematic Theology, Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary

“The Christian past is ever a rich source of encouragement, instruction, challenge, and even rebuke for God’s people today. And this devotional from the works of the Victorian Baptist C.H. Spurgeon, is ample proof in this regard. The preaching of Spurgeon, like that of his Particular Baptist forebears, made much of the events surrounding Easter, in which the crucified and risen Lord was revealed as humanity’s one and only Savior. Pondering the selections in this devotional will surely help to deepen the reader’s understanding of this revelation as well as firing the heart and will to serve such a Lord of glory!”

Michael A.G. Haykin, Professor of Church History,  
The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

“This devotional is really, really good. Just when I thought I knew all of Spurgeon’s gems, J.A. Medders has gone to the treasure chest and brought out some more. Read this to enjoy C.H. Spurgeon at his very best and to fix your eyes on Jesus.”

Alistair Begg, Senior Pastor at Parkside Church in Cleveland, Ohio;  
Bible Teacher at Truth For Life

“Few voices over the past 2,000 years have been more used by God to stir people’s hearts with a greater love for Jesus than that of Charles Haddon Spurgeon. In this wonderful Easter devotional, Medders has compiled some of the best of Spurgeon’s words, skilfully guiding us through the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Here in *The Risen King*, you will find daily devotions that are brief yet rich with biblical insight; a perfect supplement to a morning Bible-reading schedule. I highly recommend this book, and I am confident that everyone who reads it will come away more amazed at the glory and goodness and grace of God.”

Adam Ramsey, Lead Pastor, Liberti Church, Australia;  
Director, Acts 29 Asia Pacific; Author, *Truth on Fire*

“In Jeff Medders’ *The Risen King*, we have the opportunity to taste Charles Spurgeon’s writings as renewed wine in new wineskins. These fresh devotionals have a high trinitarian focus and enable us to worship God in Spirit and truth while clearly pointing to Jesus, our Redeemer. Medders masterfully regenerates Spurgeon’s voice with a tone refreshingly asserting that Spurgeon still speaks to us today.”

Robert Smith, Jr., Distinguished Professor of Divinity,  
Beeson Divinity School

“I always find myself encouraged and edified when I read Spurgeon. He rightly sees the whole Bible through single verses and skillfully combines exegesis, theology, and a pastoral heart. Medders has helpfully collected devotions from Spurgeon that lead us toward the climactic event in Jesus’ life—the resurrection. Read and be enraptured by Christ through one of Christ’s most gifted servants.”

Patrick Schreiner, Associate Professor of New Testament and  
Biblical Theology, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

THE  
RISEN  
KING

C.H. SPURGEON

40 DEVOTIONS FOR EASTER

EDITED BY  
J.A. MEDDERS

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## P R E F A C E

Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834–1892), pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, is known as one of the most beloved pastors, writers, and preachers in the history of Christ’s church. It’s not because his sermons and books have sold millions of copies worldwide or because he has more words published in English than anyone else. And it’s not because thousands were converted and baptized through his ministry or because he founded a college for pastors. Spurgeon is a soul-edifying read because his sermons overflow with the sweet aroma of Jesus Christ. His preaching was unparalleled in making known the glory of Christ. The grace of God is unavoidable in Spurgeon’s works. Whatever the sermon, lecture, or book, Spurgeon exalted our great God and Savior. And this book is no different.

You are holding a new book from C.H. Spurgeon—at least, that’s what I hope you will experience as you read. His famous devotionals—*Morning by Morning* and *Evening by Evening*—were created as summaries, excerpts, and outlines from his sermons. And it’s in

that same spirit that I pulled this book together from Spurgeon’s sermons. When I realized that Spurgeon never created an Easter or Advent devotional, I knew one needed to be published—and it is my privilege to be a steward of Spurgeon’s sermons in *The Risen King* and *The Newborn King* (due for release in 2026). I hope you will enjoy these books as though they are new works from the “Prince of Preachers.”

I began this project by imagining what Spurgeon would have written and emphasized if he were the one writing. From my years of personal and doctoral work on Spurgeon, I studied the vast catalog of his sermons and selected texts and topics for the themes at hand. From these sermons, I pulled excerpts that showcased what many have come to love and expect from Spurgeon—piercing insights, vivid language, and soul-thrilling meditations on Christ’s person and work. As I read sermon after sermon, I compiled entries from single or multiple sermons that fully capture Spurgeon’s voice and insights on the biblical text and theme. While I did modernize language and sentence structure at spots to serve those new to Spurgeon and his Victorian English, my presence is minimal. As the editor, I wrote a clarifying or summarizing sentence for context at some points, but, rest assured, you are reading Spurgeon.

As you read *The Risen King* and journey through the Gospels this Easter season, I hope and pray that Spurgeon’s devotions will help you grow in love, awe, and praise of Jesus Christ. Every entry is a billboard to the greatness of Jesus. Look to him. Worship your Savior

The Risen King

with every ounce of your heart. Let's say together as Christ's people, "Long live the risen King!"

Happy Easter,  
Jeff Medders



# DAY 1

*Behold!*

*The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*

JOHN 1:29

Lifting up his hand and pointing to Jesus, John the Baptist cried, "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." He did not say, *Behold the great Example*. He did not even say, *Behold the king and leader of a new era*. The first point that he dwells upon, and which wins his enthusiasm, is "the Lamb of God." John the Baptist views Christ as the propitiation, the atoning sacrifice, for sin.

Notice how John says, "Behold the Lamb of God." This is different from what John would have said about all the lambs that he had ever heard or read of since the first appointment of sacrifice. He remembered the first of the flock which Abel offered and the sweet-smelling

sacrifice which Noah presented. He knew the sacrifices of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He was familiar with the lamb of the Passover supper and those of Israel's high festivals. He remembered the thousands of offerings that had been presented by David and by Solomon, and by other kings in the great national acts of worship. But passing them by as if they were all mere shadows, he points his finger to the man Christ Jesus, and he says of him, *This is the Lamb of God.*

What does the Lamb do? What blessed words—he “takes away” our sin! Where did he take it? I will tell you: “As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us” (Psalm 103:12). He took the sin of all believers away so completely that it sank into the bottom of the sea. God has cast it behind his back, and it will not be mentioned against us any more forever. There is no such thing now as the sin of the saints—Christ has utterly annihilated it. He came to finish transgression and to make an end of sins. And if he made an end of them, they are gone forever.

So John calls us to “behold the Lamb of God”—is that all the sinner has to do? Yes, behold him. The mere looking at him saves the soul. Whosoever looks to Christ lives by that look and shall live forever. All who are in heaven entered there simply through beholding the slain Lamb, who takes away the sin of the world. There is life in a look at the Lamb of God. Look even out of the corner of your eye if that is all that you can do! Look through your blinding tears!

John the Baptist's one business was to bear witness to

Christ. He was the morning star which heralds the rising sun. When the sun appeared, he had no more reason for shining. You cannot account for John except by Jesus—the one reason for John's existence is Jesus.

I wish it might be so with us. May we be able to say, "For me to live is Christ" (Philippians 1:21). May our lives be such that they cannot be understood apart from Jesus. May it be the case that if we were to take him away, our whole character would become an inexplicable mystery. I am afraid that some professing Christians could be easily interpreted apart from Christ. But if we are like John, true witnesses to Jesus, we shall find in Jesus the conscious purpose of our being, and his glory will be the clue to all the windings of our lives. For this purpose we were born, and for this end we have come into the world: that we may bear witness to the Lord Jesus Christ. Search and look, my brothers and sisters, to see whether it is so with you.

### **REFLECT**

How are you making it your business to behold the Lord Jesus and bear witness to him? How can you behold Jesus through your day today? And for whom will you pray, that you have an opportunity to share Jesus with them?

### **PRAY**

What a comfort to know that my sins have been taken away by the you, the Lamb of God. Warm my heart with the good news of the gospel. May the joy of the

C.H. Spurgeon

gospel run so hot in my heart that it overflows in raising my voice to tell others what the Lamb of God does for us weary sinners. Thank you, Jesus. Amen.



## DAY 2

### *The Beloved Son*

*And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."*

**MATTHEW 3:16-17**

**I**n our text, we find that the Father not only calls Christ his Son, but he says, "This is my beloved Son." What wondrous love there must be in the heart of each of the divine Persons in the sacred Trinity towards each other! How blessedly they must look upon one another with divine favor and pleasure! There could never be any division in their interests, for they are one in heart, one in purpose, one in every respect. As Jesus said, "I and the Father are one" (John 10:30).

We glean from this text how God not only calls Christ his beloved Son but says he is well pleased with him.

And if you are so united to Christ as to be one with him, God will also be well pleased with you for his dear Son's sake. But can a sinner ever be pleasing to God? Not in himself or herself, apart from Christ. But all who are in Christ are accepted "in the Beloved" (Ephesians 1:6). The Father is so pleased with Jesus that all whom he represents are pleasing to God for his sake.

Maybe you are asking, "But how can I be in Christ?" My dear friend, if you are one of the Lord's chosen, you are already in Christ in God's eternal purpose. But the way in which you must get into Christ is by true faith in him. To trust in Jesus is to be in Jesus. To rely upon the atoning sacrifice of Christ is to be one with Christ. Faith is the uniting bond which binds together the Christ in whom we believe and those who believe in him.

It does not take the Holy Spirit an hour to convert a soul. The vital spark that regenerates a soul is kindled in an instant. If you are truly trusting in Christ, God looks upon you as a part of Christ's mystical body, and he is well pleased with you for Christ's sake. Then, you have the Son suffering for you, the Spirit applying to you the merit of his atoning sacrifice, and the Father well pleased with you because you are trusting in his beloved Son. Or to put the truth in another form, the Father gives the great gospel feast, the Son is the feast, and the Spirit not only brings the invitations, but he also gathers the guests around the table. Or, to use another metaphor, God the Father is the fountain of grace, God the Son is the channel of grace, and God the Holy Spirit is

the cup from which we drink of the flowing stream. Eat and drink!

**REFLECT**

How do you view yourself? Do you think of your heavenly Father as being pleased when he sees you? Where are you battling to believe what God sees and says about you in Christ?

**PRAY**

What a delight to see and hear the intra-trinitarian love on display as the Son was baptized! And what a delight of grace to be welcomed into this love. Thank you, Father, for calling me your child. Thank you, Jesus, for loving me as your brother or sister. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for the seal of redeeming love. I want to feast on this love today. In your name, Jesus. Amen.

## DAY 3

### *Tempted in the Wilderness*

*Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.*

MATTHEW 4:1-2

**T**he Savior's public life begins and ends with temptation.

It commences in the wilderness in a close contest with satanic craftiness, and it ends in Gethsemane in a dreadful battle with the powers of darkness. There are a few bright spots between, but the gloom of the desert deepens into the midnight darkness of the cross as if to show to us that we also must begin with trial and must reckon upon ending with it.

Martin Luther learned the art of spiritual navigation from having done business himself in deep waters of spiritual tribulation. Luther's remark stands true: that prayer, meditation, and temptation are the three best instructors of the gospel believer, and since I have lately

experienced much of the latter, I must use what I have learned. But whatever we do, we shall be tempted.

God had one Son without sin, but he never had a son without temptation. The natural man or woman is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward (Job 5:7), and the Christian is born to temptation just as certainly and necessarily. It is our duty to be always on our watch against Satan because we do not know when he will come.

He is like a thief, and he gives no hint of his approach. Like the assassin, he will sneak upon his victim. If Satan always acted aboveboard—if he were a bold and open adversary—we might deal with him. But because he meets us unawares and besets us in dark and miry places on the way, we need to pray against temptation, and we need to hear the Savior's admonition, *What I say to you, I say to all: Watch.*

If you know anything of the spiritual life, you will have observed that the most likely times for Satan to attack a Christian are those they deem unlikely. In such an hour as you think he will not, the prince of this world comes. Just when you would say, "I am safe," then it is that you are in danger. Beware, dear friends, of the devil; beware of him most when you think you have least need to beware of him. And be all the more aware of your Christ, the one who defeated the devil.

**REFLECT**

What are the areas of your life where the temptations to sin are strong? Where do you need to call upon Christ today? Is there any situation about which you might be in danger of spiritual complacency where instead you may need to be on your guard?

**PRAY**

Lord, as I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, as temptations swirl around me, keep my eyes upon you. Your victory over Satan is my victory. Keep me watchful, Holy Spirit. May the light of your word brighten the darkness that hides Satan's traps and schemes. Lead me, guide me, and help me, Lord Jesus. In your name, I pray. Amen.