

Thou Shalt Be Called, Sought Out

by C.H. Spurgeon

God's surpassing grace is seen in that He not only seeks us, but actively searches for us and finds us, even when we are lost and unable to find Him.

Scripture: Isaiah 43:1, Matthew 18:12, Luke 19:10

Topics: "God's Grace", "Divine Pursuit"

Description

C.H. Spurgeon emphasizes the extraordinary grace of God in seeking out the lost, illustrating that while many may seek what is lost, God goes further by seeking us out from the depths of our sin and despair. He compares our condition to precious gold lost in filth, highlighting the relentless pursuit of God as He searches for us amidst our struggles. Spurgeon marvels at the infinite love and power of God, who does not give up on His chosen ones, ensuring that they are not only sought but effectively found and restored. He concludes with a call to praise God for His sovereign love that grants us the title of 'Sought out.'

Transcript

The surpassing grace of God is seen very clearly in that we were not only sought, but sought out. Men seek for a thing which is lost upon the floor of the house, but in such a case there is only seeking, not seeking out. The loss is more perplexing and the search more persevering when a thing is sought out. We were mingled with the mire: we were as when some precious piece of gold falls into the sewer, and men gather out and carefully inspect a mass of abominable filth, and continue to stir and rake, and search among the heap until the treasure is found.

Or, to use another figure, we were lost in a labyrinth; we wandered hither and thither, and when mercy came after us with the gospel, it did not find us at the first coming, it had to search for us and seek us out; for we as lost sheep were so desperately lost, and had wandered into such a strange country, that it did not seem possible that even the Good Shepherd should track our devious roamings. Glory be to unconquerable grace, we were sought out! No gloom could hide us, no filthiness could conceal us, we were found and brought home. Glory be to infinite love, God the Holy Spirit restored us!

The lives of some of God's people, if they could be written would fill us with holy astonishment. Strange and marvellous are the ways which God used in their case to find His own.

Blessed be His name, He never relinquishes the search until the chosen are sought out effectually. They are not a people sought to-day and cast away to-morrow. Almightyness and wisdom combined will make

no failures, they shall be called, "Sought out!" That any should be sought out is matchless grace, but that we should be sought out is grace beyond degree! We can find no reason for it but God's own sovereign love, and can only lift up our heart in wonder, and praise the Lord that this night we wear the name of "Sought out."

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