

# Thy Gentleness Hath Made Me Great

by C.H. Spurgeon

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*David's greatness came from God's goodness, and we should respond with gratitude, humility, and love.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 18:35, Psalm 119:67, Psalm 147:6, Isaiah 57:15, Matthew 11:29, Romans 8:28, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Hebrews 12:5-6, James 4:10, 1 Peter 5:6

**Topics:** "Humility", "God's Goodness"

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## Description

C.H. Spurgeon emphasizes that true greatness comes not from our own merits but from the goodness and gentleness of God. He reflects on how God's providence, humility, and discipline contribute to our growth and greatness, illustrating that God's condescension allows us to rise from our lowly state. Spurgeon encourages believers to recognize and appreciate the gentle ways in which God corrects, teaches, and draws us closer to Him. He calls for a heartfelt response of gratitude, humility, and love as we acknowledge God's role in our lives. Ultimately, we are reminded to cast our crowns at Jesus' feet, celebrating the gentleness that has made us great.

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## Transcript

The words are capable of being translated, "Thy goodness hath made me great." David gratefully ascribed all his greatness not to his own goodness, but the goodness of God. "Thy providence," is another reading; and providence is nothing more than goodness in action. Goodness is the bud of which providence is the flower, or goodness is the seed of which providence is the harvest. Some render it, "Thy help," which is but another word for providence; providence being the firm ally of the saints, aiding them in the service of their Lord.

Or again, "Thy humility hath made me great." "Thy condescension" may, perhaps, serve as a comprehensive reading, combining the ideas mentioned, including that of humility. It is God's making Himself little which is the cause of our being made great. We are so little, that if God should manifest His greatness without condescension, we should be trampled under His feet; but God, who must stoop to view the skies, and bow to see what angels do, turns His eye yet lower, and looks to the lowly and contrite, and makes them great.

There are yet other readings, as for instance, the Septuagint, which reads, "Thy discipline"--Thy fatherly correction--"hath made me great;" while the Chaldee paraphrase reads, "Thy word hath increased me." Still the idea is the same. David ascribes all his own greatness to the condescending goodness of his Father in heaven. May this sentiment be echoed in our hearts this evening while we cast our crowns at

Jesus' feet, and cry, "Thy gentleness hath made me great." How marvellous has been our experience of God's gentleness!

How gentle have been His corrections! How gentle His forbearance! How gentle His teachings! How gentle His drawings! Meditate upon this theme, O believer. Let gratitude be awakened; let humility be deepened; let love be quickened ere thou fallest asleep to-night.

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