

What Can a Sinner Do to Be Saved

by Rolfe Barnard

A sinner must repent and have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, but this cannot be done until the sinner is regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

Duration: 43:07

Scripture: Matthew 6:33, Mark 1:40-42, Luke 7:30, Luke 18:13, John 5:39, Romans 3:23, Romans 10:17

Topics: "Salvation"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher tells a parable about a man who hires workers for his vineyard. Some workers work for 12 hours, while others only work for one hour. At the end of the day, the owner pays all the workers the same amount, which angers those who worked longer. The preacher emphasizes that God has the right to do as He sees fit with what is His own. He also highlights the importance of recognizing our sinful nature and the need for salvation through Jesus Christ's righteousness and sacrifice.

Transcript

What can a sinner do in order to be saved? I'm going to ask you all to just listen to me as if you were the people at rest. If you were a poor, ruined, lost, rebellious, ill-deserving sinner, and if you wanted to find out, since you are a human being, since you are not a tin can, since you are not just a machine, you've got a mind to think with, a heart to feel with, you've got a will to will with, is there anything for you to do? And I seize this text, the last phrase, from the 20th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, for the 16th verse, to suggest our subject tonight. Our Lord Jesus says, many be called, but few chosen.

Many be called, but few chosen. Now it's always interesting, if you're going to try, to tell people who are kind enough to listen, and they're eternity-bound people, and they've got an eternal soul, and they're going to live somewhere as long as God lives, and if they're down here on this earth for just a little while, and if what happens or takes place on this earth determines whether you'll live forever, the state of your conscious being forever, it's terribly important that the preacher, if he assumes to take any verse of Scripture in the Word of God, that he not make it mean what it don't mean, but he try his dead level best to tell people the truth. A dear lady came up to me one time, and she was not ugly, but she expressed a fact.

She said, Preacher, I didn't believe what you preached tonight. And I said, I didn't ask you to. Now it's back one gift to the other.

We're not selling something. We're not selling something. Any man who engages to preach to other people, remembers that he only hopes he himself is a sinner saved by grace, he don't know enough to talk down to anybody, and he is, if he knows his heart, willing and anxious to be of help to any inquiring soul, but he doesn't want anybody to think that we've got a bill of goods, and we're trying to sell it, and if the price is a little too high, we'll be willing to mark it down for your acceptance.

That's not what we're trying to do. We're trying to be true to the souls of men. Now I've seen so many preachers and so many deacons and so many good people.

As we know good people and honest people and zealous people and earnest people, I've seen them torn up by the Holy Ghost and experience the depravity of their own sinful souls as well as in their experience, as well as in their theology, and I've seen them, all the props brought out from under them, I've seen them in the valley of repentance, and I've seen them brought to the joy of the Lord until I want to ask God every time I speak not to let me be guilty of assuming that the people I preach to know the Lord. One thing we must not miss, and that's to know the Lord in the experience of having him as Lord of our lives and Savior of our souls. And this text here is an interesting text because of its context.

Now by context I mean the scriptures out of which I picked it. I just read one phrase. The context is all together in one word.

That is, God here is teaching that he is absolute God and that he's advancing his claim or his right to do with people as he sees best. He says I've got a right to do with mine own as I see fit. And you've got a whole parable or story here in the first part of this chapter.

A man's got a vineyard and he hires some men to work in it and he tells them how much he'll pay them. And along about an hour before quitting time some other fellows come along and he gives them a job and some of them work 12 hours and then a few of them just work one hour. And when the day is over, the 12-hour stuff, and it's time to lay off, the owner of this field paid the folks who worked just one hour exactly the same that he paid the folks who worked 12 hours.

And some of the folks who'd worked all day long 12 hours they came and remonstrated with the owner and said they didn't think he was doing right to pay the people who'd come in at the last hour and he'd given them a job and he paid them exactly the same as he did the folks who worked all day long. And the owner of the field answered after this line. He said, now you folks that worked 12 hours how much did I agree to pay you? And they said, so much.

He said, did I pay you that much? And they said, yes. He said, then have I done you any harm? Did I keep my agreement with you? And they had to admit that he did. And he said, now if I pay these other folks anything I please to did I do you any harm? And they had to admit that he did them no harm.

That he had a right to pay the folks who worked one hour the same as he paid the folks who worked 12 hours and that if he chose to do it he had a perfect right to do it and in so doing it he didn't do any disservice or any harm. He carried out his bargain to the people who worked 12 hours.

And then from that story the Lord Jesus said the first shall be last and the last shall be first and many be called but few be chosen and he bases it all on the proposition simply this that he has bound himself now watch this he has bound himself to fulfill his obligation any obligation that God makes to anybody saint or sinner he says I'll take care of it I'm dead sure going to see it taken care of and he's going to do right by

everybody who is his servant or his saint and if he wants to do more for somebody else he claims the right to do that he claims the right to do that now if we will not let God do that way we just have to say well God you just have to go your way and we will go ours because we have to say that we have to bow to what we call the sovereignty of God or we just have to

allow Bibles away and so that's how it's grounded now grounded as it is on God's plain teaching that he does as he pleases that he claims the right to deal with men as he does in that atmosphere he tells the people that many be called and few be chosen many be called now the Bible is very very plain now listen to me but all you can't in golf up and claim any right yourself that God has revealed in his word telling us this about himself that whatever he obligates himself to do he's going to do and he has told us in his word that he has obligated himself to call many many be called and we can make that word many stretch out I know I don't know how far it stretches but I know it stretches this far it stretches to two different kinds of people it stretches at least this far that God calls

everybody who ever hears his gospel at least one man and he's bound himself to do that he's revealed in his Bible that he will do that and every sinner can expect if he hears the gospel that in the gospel God's carrying out a covenant that God made with himself to do to every sinner that he'd call men by the gospel and the other class of people that this word many can mean it means this everybody who ever had an opportunity to hear the gospel it binds him for a man is responsible to God for not only for to hear but what he could hear if he'd advantage himself you see you see the point or somebody says well I'll just not go where the gospel is placed and thus I won't be responsible if they have an opportunity to do so they're responsible for what they do of the truth that they would have

heard if they hadn't failed to take advantage of it that's right that's a solemn thought now I do not know whether it's true that God calls everybody I don't know whether that's so or not it says many be called and few be chosen the heathen who lives and dies and never gets anywhere near anything like the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ never hears it never hears about it no missionaries ever there his father never heard a missionary his grandfather never heard a missionary born in heathenism he lives and dies all the days of his life and never so much at one time hears a note of the gospel and somebody says well God can't save them well I don't know what God can't do I wouldn't say that I just don't know about that but I don't see how I don't see how God calls anybody except through his

word and his gospel at least the scriptures do not tell us how he does it at least the scriptures do not reveal it a sinner needs to know more than to hear the gospel a sinner needs to know more than a little truth a sinner needs to be operated on and overcome so that he is the driver of the energizer in the disposition of the change so that he can do what God requires of him you see it is just true that hearing the gospel gets you saved while everybody here in this country has been saved I remember talking to a preacher down in North Carolina two or three months ago and he was thinking about cleaning about my preaching and he said you are wrong everybody wants to be saved and he said the only thing on earth you've got to do to get a man to Lord Jesus Christ to just sit down and talk with

him and help him solve his difficulties and he said you just remove the difficulties while he's just anxious to be saved and I said well there's 60,000 marines right out there and you can hear the spit on them and it looks to me like what you're telling me the truth they've done all of them saved but now you could just spend one day a week out there and sat down with those soldiers and they're all just dying to be saved and the reason they're not saved they've just got a few little difficulties they don't know how to work out notice that there's got to be something else besides hearing the gospel it's got to be heard within it and it's

got to be through the power of God the Holy Spirit many be called and few be chosen and so I do not know whether God calls everybody or not but we do know

that he calls through his gospel everybody who has a chance to hear and everybody who does hear his gospel well that'll include you so we'll let the heathen for the time being alone tonight and try to look into the text what's this God mean here many be called and few be chosen those I am preachers said that many be called men that as the gospel is preached or witnessed publicly or privately as sinners are slain by the law and the gospel is offered to them that in that preaching and in that ministry God doth strive and call strive with and call all who hear and if if God sees fit to keep on calling and to keep on striving until he overcomes the resistance of the sinner that that sinner will find out by that very word that he is one of God's chosen ones you see there's no way on earth a

sinner can find out whether he's one of God's elect people he can't go to any book and find his name written there he can't go to any doctrine and the only way anybody can find out that he is one of God's children now been brought into the fold and that God did it on purpose God always meant to do it is that God has effectually has really called and in such a way as to overcome his disposition to sin and to give him a disposition to holiness and an ability to lay hold on Christ now what I want to talk to you about tonight is this that the sinner the sinner is responsible for what he does about every advance that God makes towards him if God ever gives you the opportunity to hear the gospel one time you're responsible for that one time you earn and if the spirit of God ever uses providence

of trouble or good times or the word of God or the law or the gospel or the influence of some godly person or anything on earth that you are responsible and there's some things that you can do as God works towards your salvation I believe the scriptures are very plain that ordinarily ordinarily as the sinner rightly uses that which God gives him to do that ordinarily it will work out to what we call the effectual call and a man finding out that he is a child of God now this is important dear ones when you remember this that there's many ways of saying I have truth somebody says that I believe that God did his part and now the sinner does his part now that's not a good term but if you understand us to mean that God does part of saving and then the sinner does the rest of saving that's

wrong but if you understand us to mean there is nothing for the sinner to do in order to save you're still wrong when we say that God does all of the saving we're telling the truth but when we say the sinner does all of the receiving we're also telling the truth when we say that God has to do all of the saving we're telling the truth but when we say when somebody comes along and says that you receive that apart from doing anything yourself you're dead wrong on that and so sometimes in trying to speak truth we say too much and sometimes we don't say enough so I come tonight to ask you since if you've ever heard the gospel now watch this since if you've ever heard the gospel one time or since if you've ever had an opportunity here at one time God did call you in that gospel that he did and

since you're responsible for that but since you cannot deceive unless God calls you sufficiently loud enough and with such power as to overcome your inward disposition against him you can't deceive I come and say to you that the sinner is responsible for how he uses whatever call he gets from God that's right now let's go another way I answer this question what must the sinner do in order to save now I call the sinner must must attain to a state of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ now watch it and those acts must be his own act you yourself must repent and you yourself must savingly act and lay hold on Jesus Christ and his work and his person as your Lord and your Savior and yet now wait just a minute God Almighty wait just a minute don't get in too big a hurry now

wait just a minute wait just a minute now salvation certainly is not going to leave us in a state below that which we were before we fell in Adam salvation is to restore us to the place we were before we fell and Adam loved God supremely and you haven't been brought to repentance unless you love him supremely Adam loved God and sought God and as the chief in and the holy good man his disposition was in the direction of the will and the pleasure of God and when you were in Adam as I was and that's where this whole thing started and that's the reason you're going to hell because of your original sin you don't have to do anything else that'll fix you up now watch you lost you lost what did you lose why do you need to be saved not given a purse but why do you need to be saved restored

restored made healthy again it's because Adam and you in Adam loved God supremely and when we sin we came to love ourselves instead of God now any kind of salvation that doesn't at least do enough for Ralph Barnes to get him back to where he was before he fell into insalvation at all and repentance is a change of mind every sinner loves in fact supremely and you haven't been brought to repentance now you may put you in the back and go in the pit but you haven't been brought to repentance until your whole attitude has been changed from a love of self to a supreme love of God and that's what repentance is that's what repentance is and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ every sinner has got to repent every sinner has got to saving the lay whore on Jesus Christ because watch it now watch it when

we fell in Adam we suffered two things we lost our holy disposition our righteous standing before God and we incurred the righteous penalty of God's holy law so that we have no righteousness and we deserve eternal death and the only thing God ever done about that was to send his Son to righteously keep the law and thus give his righteousness to us and for his Son to righteously die under the penalty of God's law in our state and so the only hope of salvation for a sinner is to be so ready to repent that he quits loving himself supremely and moves to loving God supremely until he quits depending on any righteousness of himself and depends utterly on the perfect righteousness of Christ and until he pleads guilty at being a guilty sinner and pleads the only hope of his salvation at being the

righteous death of the Lord Jesus in his state so I repeat that the sinner must be brought to repentance the sinner must as an act of himself turn from loving himself to loving God the sinner must be brought as an act of his own will from depending on himself or any righteousness of his own and depend all together on the Lord Jesus Christ now having said that I want to get to my subject I've been talking about what a sinner must do you must repent and you must repent now I come to say what can a sinner do and I turn right around and tell you that you can't repent and I turn right around and tell you that you can't believe you must or you're going to hell but you can't you can't until you are regenerated by the Holy Spirit of God now let's get it you just can't do it now if a sinner could

love God with all of his heart without the work of the Spirit he wouldn't need to be saved he's already been saved don't you see that's when you're in the mess you're in that's when you're lost ruined hell bound hell deserving sin it's because you're so deep down in the pit that you can't pull yourself up somebody wrote Dr.

Barnhouse some question about theology and salvation I forget exactly what it was and he wrote in the letter and said the answer to your question can be found in the answer to this question when man fell how far did he fall when man fell how far did he fall did he fall so far that he lost all his holy disposition did he fall so far that he's inclined always for the wrong and never to the right did he fall so far that he cannot change himself you know a holy person can sin but a sinful person can't do right a holy person can fall but a fallen person can't rise a man can kill himself but he can't give himself back you can throw a rock away

but you can't bring it back is that right water can flow downhill but it can't flow uphill unless it's pushed a holy man like Adam and like you were in

Adam can sin and lose all of his holiness but a sinful man can't make himself holy now we're in a mess watch it now a man's got to as an act of his will to turn from loving himself to loving God a man's got as an act of his will to turn from trusting himself cause everybody thinks of trusting himself or he's looking to another that's right that's the God's truth and yet it can't he can't accept and ask he is born from above let him prove it to you my Lord Jesus said two things to Nicodemus first he said if you're born again you cannot what you cannot see you cannot see you want to know what on God's earth I'm talking about the apostle Paul says the natural man received it not the things of God neither can he their foolishness to him for they're spiritually deserved is that right now let's

see let's see a man is dead in his sins Ephesians 2 1 you have it what quicker who were dead in your trespasses and said now what does that mean what does that mean it simply means this that every unsaved man and woman boy and girl is totally lacking in all holiness towards God it doesn't mean that he's as bad as he could be it means it doesn't mean that he's terribly bad it just means he doesn't have any holiness in the sight of God that's what it means that because he has no holiness he's got no power in himself to do any good thing that would please God it simply means that until a leopard can change his spots a man cannot change himself now bless your dear heart when we fell in our own sand two terrible things took place we lost our holy disposition and gained an unholy disposition

and thus we lost our ability now God created Adam and gave him the ability to continue sinless or gave him the opportunity didn't keep him from it didn't force him but didn't keep him from it and allowed him the opportunity of sinning and you and I were in that that's where we got all the trouble we're in that's the reason we're born in sin like we are that's the reason we're born with sinful nature now a poor lost hell bound sinner has a will and it's free but it's free to do what it can do and since the man's will is first of all his disposition now somebody says well preacher you give me tell me a sinner can't do anything sure he can do lots of things I'm going to tell you about him in a minute but he can't love something unless he loves it and he can't force himself to love something

you just can't do it and he can't force himself to love God did you know that anybody that loves God with all his heart is a child of God and you can't force yourself to do that you can't force and so the sinner is up against now listen to me boy and girl listen to me man and woman you're just as helpless as you can be in the first place you can't force God to change you in the second place you can't force God to give you life and a dead sinner can't love God with all his heart he can't love God with all of his heart because he loves himself with all of his heart the reason he can't love God is not because he loves himself the reason I say he can't repent and repentance is turning to God as a supreme good and loving Him the reason he can't is because he don't want to and the reason he

don't want to is because he wants to do something else and he can't change himself he can't do it to save his life and so the sinner the scriptures say he cannot come to the Lord except he's drawn to the Spirit the scriptures say that no he just can't come he can't he can't come to the Lord and so we say to you that you've got to repent God's got a right to demand that we'll be in salvation apart from that but you can't do it yourself and until you find out that you can't repent you'll never be given repentance and until you find out you can't believe you'll never be given faith and until you are brought so low that you lose all confidence that you can strike a battle you'll never be saved an operation from God Almighty through the Holy Spirit has got to happen to you now the second thing

the Lord said to Nicodemus he said first you can't see you can't understand something's got to happen to illumine your mind do something to your will and your heart your heart so you can understand what I'm talking about and the second thing he said except you're born of the water and Spirit you cannot walk you cannot enter that activity man stands still and look and there's nothing to keep him from looking man stands still and understands he can understand these things something's got to happen before he can understand something's got to happen before he knows what he's talking about he's got to be born of the Spirit and then something's got to happen before he can go in somewhere and going into the Kingdom of God is through the door of repentance and faith and so what the Lord's saying

you've got to be born from above so that you can do now let's get this other thought right quickly listen to me there's nothing on earth there's nothing on earth you can do to force God to work this miracle in you there's nothing on earth you can do that makes you deserve and honor and yes we come onto the ground of our subject God exercises his right to do as he will and while God pledges to do right with everybody he says that he'll show mercy to whom he will to whom he will now listen carefully I want to give you six things that the sinner can do none of which I guarantee will turn out to your salvation six things the sinner can do that he ought to do and that he can do you see and I tell you that the probabilities are it usually happens this way that if the sinner will wisely do what

he can he'll not deserve God's work and a miracle in him but the probabilities are that God almighty in grace will effectually work a work of grace in him and here are these six things and we ought never to be afraid to press these on every sinner we have an opportunity but there's one thing I caution you for God's sake dear one as your witness don't proposition the sinner and say sinner I guarantee he'll do so and so God will do so and so don't do that don't do that don't invade the fact that mercy must be optional you see if you don't you're not telling that sinner the truth cause he liable to get the impression that he makes a bargain swap something for salvation but he liable to get the impression that he's got a right to demand salvation from God and we all know that salvation is an

act of mercy God showing mercy to a sinner but here are six things that if you're without God I don't guarantee if you do them you'll be saved but I guarantee that you can do them and that the probabilities are that God as you faithfully use the means of common grace that he gives to sinners the probabilities are that you'll be overcome and God will show you by calling you that you're one of his own and I mention them very quickly first every sinner can and ought to read the book of God's word every sinner can and ought to read and hear God's word taught and preached Lord we need to talk like that a whole lot today I tell you a sinner needs to read by him a Bible and start searching the scriptures that's right and we got generation church members now that don't search the scriptures and

I'm telling you right now everybody's better to get him a Bible start reading now a sinner can do that can't he? huh? somebody says you preach to the sinner can't do anything well he can sure do this can't he? he can't save him sir he can't change him sir but he can read the Bible can't he? and you know the Bible says that the faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God you see it?

I don't guarantee if you buy you a Bible start reading it prayerfully seeking God to open up the truth to God I don't guarantee you'll be saved you can't guarantee this business mercy is optional he must do right he may show mercy you believe that? that's the way it is no you'll never be saved sinner you may never know how to spell the word sovereignty you'll never be saved until you experience it in your heart you've got to come down off your high horse and say Lord if you do anything wrong and you dead sure can if you will but it'll just be up to you I can't force you to do it and I got no claim on you that's reading like putting a knife

in my heart when I listen to the public preaching and they say sinners you'll do so and so so and so I guarantee what God will do I can't cause mercy

is optional he said I'll show mercy to whom I will I don't know whether he'll show mercy to you or not and I won't tell you he will I will say this is the day of mercy I will tell you about so and so show mercy to them I will testify show mercy to me and I'll say that's encouraging isn't it isn't it if I hear of a judge that's showing mercy to guilty criminals I'd kind of like if I got caught to be in his court I'd say well maybe show mercy to me you know I think that's honest I think that's a good place for a sinner to quit demanding so much of God and I'll order if you will if you will that could make me clean huh a son read his bible the Lord Jesus said to the Jews of his day search the scriptures that you've been reading them wrong said you have an outward belief a carnal belief in

the scriptures that you call yourself Christian and he said these are they said in them you think you have eternal life just cause you read the bible trust it and believe it in your head but he said you've read your bible wrong the scriptures testified me and said because all of your bible study has been wrong and you missed the one it was talking about here's the one your scriptures talked about and it's left you with a disposition that you will not come to me but you might have life in the second place every unsaved sinner can and must must you must hold his feet to the fire he could seriously think about the facts of spiritual existence now God's done something for every human being he's given you a conscience he's given you a consciousness of God he's given you a knowledge of right

and wrong he's given you a knowledge that you're not here forever he's given you a fear of dying in your sins and the man could think about that this jolly generation is on the road to run because it can't stand still a minute face facts and face facts and it's running right into hell now every sinner could face facts couldn't he every sinner could think about what he knows Bible or no Bible that's right he could do that couldn't he now I don't guarantee that if you do that God will save you you just can't fix it so you got that all fixed up now you know your mercy is optional with God but you can do this you can do this and I tell you right now if I give you five dollars and you tear it up and throw it away the chances are I'm not going to come around tomorrow and give you ten dollars

and the chances are God almighty is not going to give you the effectual call and bring you to salvation when he observes every day that every time he does anything in your direction you violate the sin against him you see what I mean that's right that's right in the third place every sinner can read this Bible and face facts and he's got this much ability he's got a head and he's got a brain and he's got enough that he could accept the testimony of God in the book about himself there ain't a better sense in the world and folks running around here swearing on a stack of Bibles they're not lost and undone and guilty of hell with an open Bible and says all have sinned and the whole world is guilty and so forth you know that generation of my Lord's days they wouldn't they rejected the counsel

of God against themselves Luke 7 30 the Pharisees rejected the counsel of God against themselves you see being not baptized at John and men and women today are you doing it? dying in the face of what this word says about yourself rejecting the counsel of God you know a fellow's almost in the way of salvation when he comes down off his high horse and pleads guilty as God charges him in the world that's right and sent it to do that there isn't a sinner in this town that doesn't have enough capacity and ability to read this book while the missionaries go to their tribes in the darkest jungles of Africa and begin to preach the word and the people say how do you know about us? it's written ladies and gentlemen boys and girls the holy law of God is written in the hearts of every human being you

don't have to have a bible to know their sinners to know what God thinks about them and then the fourth thing that every sinner can do and that every sinner ought to do you ought to try to repent now follow me carefully if you think I'm wrong and that you can repent of your sins toward God you just try you just try now yes the bible commands all men everywhere to repent if you don't you go into hell but you just try you just try I'll tell you what you can do if you got a bad habit you can quit it the doctor will scare you can't you? huh?

I know drunkards that have quit the doctor finally scared them said they don't want you to be dead in six months and they quit you can do that can't you? huh? huh? you change a lot of your ways can't you? huh? sure can't you can't change yourself you just try you just try to be somebody different to God you can't do that they will just get out on you you just can't do that that's what repentance is sin in it's essence is selfishness self love repentance of sin has to be changed from love in self to love in God now you can do some things that God tells you to do cause you're scared of it and you can refuse to do some things God tells you not to do out of fear but you can't fix it so you love to do what God tells you and hate to do what God tells you not to do and you are liable to learn something about yourself next time you go hear the preachers today preaching you do this it's all up to you now all these preachers they just telling you the truth out here in these little school buildings about you can't repent and all that you're not in as bad shapes they say you just try you get a five drop moment you work all day and see if your heart has been changed one bit by sundown see if you can change whom you love and what you love are you and the fifth thing the santa ought to do and can do you ought to try to believe go to the saint lord help me unbelieve help me unbelieve help me you just try you just try to get out of yourself and lay hold actually lay hold on the lord jesus christ as your very own you just try now you can make a confession you can cry you can shout you can weep you can do lots of things but this business lay hold on christ not a physical act it's a spiritual act you can't do you can't do listen dear one the sooner you set out trying to save yourself be honest about it the sooner you'll either run right smack on this proposition you can't do and the sooner that takes place you'll quit and you'll quit quit and you'll quit oh it might be it's your mercy to you might be might be paul said i'll pay you mercy you know the very moment your able to turn from self love and self service to god as a supreme object for your love and service And the moment you are able to say, Christ loved me and gave himself to me, have that assurance that he's mine.

You may be sure that God has worked a miracle in your life that enables you to do what you must do in order to be saved. Now, of course, all I said is no good at all if I've spoken to somebody tonight that has no sense of your sinfulness and of your need of God, literally changing you, literally changing you. You think you'd make it all right? You're not in His good mercy, are you? There isn't anything on earth that's on my heart, beloved, as heavy as what I'm talking about now.

I'm the biggest fool God ever let live, for this even religious world is being led to hell by blind leaders. It seems to me that nearly all of the attention is directed toward men instead of toward Him. It seems to me that nearly all of the preaching is directed toward sinners instead of trying to shut them up to their need of God.

I wish I knew how to get a hold of God's throne, awaken people, call people to His front door. I'd love to see Him, wouldn't you love to see Kingsport? Just on the paved streets and in the bare joints and everywhere, on its knees, crying out to God for mercy. I long to turn men away from all hope in themselves, all trying to bargain with God.

See, sinners admitting their guilt, saying, Lord, with Thy will, Thou can make me clean. You don't have to. Huh? You don't have to.

And so as I remember you, you pray for me. I'm trying to go from place to place, many of the small groups now, trying to get a hold of this truth, not to prove some doctrine, not to argue with men, but to shut men up to their need of God, doing a supernatural work in their lives. That's what we want.

You pray for me. You pray for me.

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