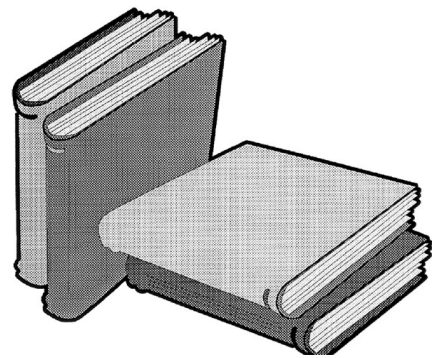


The Rock and Pit

*Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn,
and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.*

Isa 51:1

Selections from the Christian's heritage in print,
collected by Dean Brown



Issue 1034

Internal Worship.

Worship is either internal or external. **Internal worship requires our first attention, it being of the greatest moment** [literally, leverage] **and importance.**

External worship profits little in comparison of that. **If the heart is not engaged in worship, bodily exercise is of little advantage**, that being only the form, without the power of godliness. Yea, **vain is such worship where the heart is far removed from God.** God is a spirit, and must be worshipped with our spirits ...

Without ... life and godliness ... there can be no worship. The things pertaining to life and godliness are faith, hope, love, and every other grace, of which it consists, and in the exercise of which it lies. In this is all internal religion and worship.

Godliness is only to be found in those who are partakers of the grace of God in truth. For their character is that **they are after the Spirit, or are spiritual men; they are born of the Spirit** and his grace. ... **They mind the things of the spirit. They love spiritual doctrines, desire spiritual gifts**, especially **an increase of spiritual grace** and a clearer view of their interest in [i.e., their part of] **all spiritual blessings. They savor the things of God**, and of the Spirit of God; they have a gust for them, a relish of them, they are sweet unto them, their taste being changed. Therefore the disposition of their souls is God-ward, and to his service. They have an understanding of him, and desire to know more of him. ... Godliness is not in name and profession only, but godliness in the life and power of it. Without this there can be no internal worship, nor indeed any external worship rightly performed.

John Gill, *A Complete Body of Doctrinal and Practical Divinity*, 1770,
from the 1819 edition, p. 700-702,
with slight changes in wording for the modern reader.

Gill was a Reformed Baptist Minister pastoring the congregation that,
in 1854, called the 19 year old Charles Spurgeon to its pulpit.