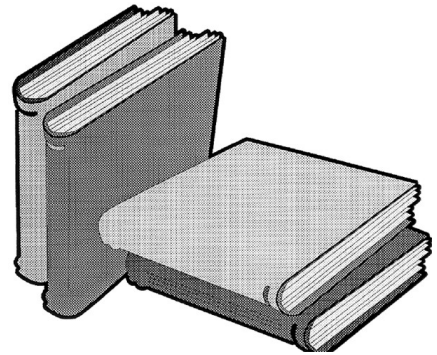


# The Rock and Pit

*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 1037

## **External Worship.**

### **More On Prayer.**

**It is good for the saints to draw nigh to God**; it is not only good because it is their duty, but it is a pleasant good when they have the presence of God in it, and their souls are drawn out towards him.

**It is a profitable good to them** when God owns it as an ordinance for the quickening the graces of his Spirit, subduing the corruption of their hearts, and bringing them into nearer communion and fellowship with himself.

**Praying souls are profitable** in families, in churches, in neighborhoods and commonwealths.

**Prayerless ones are useless**, and obtain nothing, neither for themselves or others.

**Of all the fruits** which faith produces in Christians, says Beza, **prayer**, that is, calling on the name of God through Christ, **is the principal one**.

John Gill, *A Complete Body of Doctrinal and Practical Divinity*, 1770,  
from the 1819 edition, p. 947-948,  
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.

Beza (1519-1605) a reformer, a disciple of Calvin, a Frenchman who lived most  
of his life in Switzerland. He was Calvin's partner and successor in Geneva.