

Unpopular Bible Doctrines #14: Devils & Demon Possession are Real

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Unpopular Bible Doctrines

By Larry Wessels

Bible Text: Mark 7:24-30; 2 Corinthians 13:5-8

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Larry Wessels: Greetings and welcome to Christian Answers. I'm Larry Wessels, Director of Christian Answers and thank you for being with us today. Today we're doing a very special series of programs on Bible doctrines that are deemed to be unpopular. Now, joining me in this Unpopular Bible Doctrine series is my very special guest and Director of Pilgrim Publications, Bob L. Ross. Bob, great to have you here, brother.

Bob L. Ross: Thank you, Larry.

Larry: Bob L. Ross is one of the world's leading publishers of the works of Charles Haddon Spurgeon, the famous Prince of Preachers from the 19th century. Now Bob for our audience, could you tell us a little bit about Charles Haddon Spurgeon and some of the works you have there with you?

Bob: Well Larry, probably most of the people listening to this program may be acquainted with Spurgeon because they would have an interest in Christian things and Spurgeon has been around a long time. But our interest in Spurgeon, of course, is in his sermons and works that were published in the 1800s, reprinting those and making them available. They are on the internet now more and more. They are being added to the internet, even many of his books and, of course, they are on cd rom and in many ways they are getting used in the world. One of the ways is this book here that we just recently did not too long ago anyway. It's Spanish sermons, Spurgeon in Spanish and there is a website now, a gentleman in Mexico City, a good friend of ours, is translating and putting Spurgeon sermons on the internet in Spanish and this is one of the first books that has been done, 36 sermons by Spurgeon on the Gospel, and this is the Spanish language edition of it. So we're trying to get Spurgeon known not only to the English speaking world of our generation but to other languages and in the United States where we have a great population of Spanish speaking people, we think this book will make a great contribution to helping to spread the Gospel.

Then we have another book and this is an unusual book. A gentleman read through the entire 3,563 sermons, I think, of Spurgeon's sermons. It took him about seven years to do it and he collected these quotations, over 5,000 illustrations and quotations from

Spurgeon on a variety of subjects. A lot of times people say, "I wonder what Spurgeon thought of that? I wonder what his idea was about this particular thing?" Well, you can go in here and he's got it indexed; he's got all the quotations referenced. Sometimes you pick up a book of quotations from Spurgeon and they're not referenced; you don't know where it came from. It could've come from John Doe and you'd never know but this man has it all referenced where you can find it in the context of the sermons themselves and traces down if you want to read it in context to see if that indeed was what it sounded like when you read the excerpt. So it's called "Exploring the Mind and Heart of the Prince of Preachers: C. H. Spurgeon," put together by Kerry J. Allen, a Baptist pastor from up in Illinois and this is one of our latest publications here that we are helping. We didn't actually publish this one but we're helping to distribute this book. So that's a little bit of information about Spurgeon.

Larry: Alright Bob and for our audience, anyone that is interested in more on this subject and particularly the works and sermons of Charles Haddon Spurgeon, just call or write our ministry. You'll see those phone numbers and our address will be popping up at the end of the program so feel free to call or write. Also, if you'd like to get on our free newsletter mailing list, you can call or write to our ministry, Christian Answers, and you will receive a free subscription to the Christian Answers Newsletter whenever it comes out. So that is there and yours for the asking, basically.

Our next Unpopular Bible Doctrine is #63 as you can see there on the screen: Demon possession is taught as a fact throughout Scripture. The first verse up is Psalm 106:35-40, you have a lot of talk there about idolatry and how people are sacrificing their daughters and so forth to what they think may be their gods but really it's to demons as the psalmist says. Matthew 4:24, the people who were coming to Jesus and it says, "They brought all to him who were ill, taken with diseases and pains, demoniacs, etc." Matthew 8:15, many brought to him who were demon possessed. Luke 7:21, Jesus cured people with evil spirits. Matthew 8:28-34, two men were demon possessed and later the demons were sent into swine. Mark 7:24-30, the story about the demon possessed daughter. Mark 9:14-29, you have the story there about the demon possessed son. Luke 13:10-17, a sickness was caused by a demon. Matthew 10:8, disciples are told to cast out demons. Luke 11:14, the demon of dumbness was cast out. Luke 4:33-37, the devils and demons knew who Jesus was and Jesus was telling them to, "Keep silent."

Psalm 106:35-40. But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works. And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils, And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood. Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions. Therefore was the wrath of the LORD kindled against his people, insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance.

Matthew 4:24. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were

possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

Matthew 8:16. When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:

Luke 7:21. And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight.

Larry: There are many, many more verses we could bring on this chart but, in fact, for our viewers at home, I have a Christian Answers Newsletter here that we have many newsletters on many topics but this one happens to be dealing with spiritual warfare. The lead article is written by Dr. Thomas Ice who has written a book on the subject, a very good book. We have material in here that deals with all kinds of spiritual warfare that comes through dealing with the world, the flesh and the devil and, of course, demon possession is mentioned and your biblical references are given. So anyone that wants a free copy of this can call or write our ministry and we'll be glad to send it to you.

Now, Bob, we have a lot of people out there that like to say and I think the Barna polls and so forth have done studies but it's interesting when you look at the numbers of people that believe in God is like 98% but when you look at the numbers of people according to these polls that believe in the devil or demons, it drops down to something like 30% or 40%. So in other words, 98% of the people will believe in God but less than half of that will believe there's a devil or demons out there. A lot of these people will believe in Jesus but they won't believe in Satan. They'll believe in the apostles and biblical stories and things but they won't believe in devils or demon possession cases that are reported. So it's sort of like a dichotomy; they kind of take what they want here and leave out the other. But I've always said that if you're going to believe in God according to the Bible, you're also going to have to believe in the devil. To me, they are both presented as facts. What is your take on this demon possession as fact in the Bible?

Bob: Well, certainly we have the devil mentioned in the Bible. We have demons mentioned in the Bible. We have a few instances of people possessed or bothered by or influenced by or whatever terminology, the demons, but, Larry, I want to emphasize this: that God is still in charge of the world. The demons haven't taken over the world. The devil hasn't taken over the world. That expression, "the god of this world," in referring to the devil, doesn't mean that the devil is the god of the world. He is the god of the world in that they follow him by his influences and, "the lust of your father you will do," Jesus said. But the real God who controls the world, who has sovereignty over the world, is Almighty God and a bird doesn't fall to the ground except by God's sovereignty. So the devil can't go here or there, nor you without God's permissive will in that regard.

But so many people today are trying to scare us and hype us up to fear the devil and to fear the demons and to fear these possessions as if God doesn't have the control. And we have these people that are all administering in spiritual warfare and they're going to equip

you to be able to fight this spiritual warfare. I don't know but what some of those people may be under some kind of possession themselves because they don't put the emphasis where it belongs. The Holy Spirit indwells Christians and you're going to tell me a demon can come in and take over? Put the Holy Spirit down? If God's Spirit dwells in us, the devil is not going to be able to take possession of us. I know there are people who say, "I believe Christians can be possessed of devils." Well, one of them might give you a little nudge every now and then but he's not going to possess you because the Holy Spirit possesses you. If the devil gets a hold and possesses you, Paul said, "If Jesus Christ is not in you, you're not his." So be careful on that line.

Now, a Scripture, Larry, that is misused, I think in this connection, is Ephesians 6 where it says, "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Actually, what that's referring to is the governments of the world. The principalities and powers, we're told in other places to submit ourselves to the principalities and powers. That's referring to the governments. So in the government positions of the world at this particular time and at any time down through the years, we have ungodly men maybe in certain situations.

Larry: That's right.

Bob: These ungodly men in these positions of power. They have a power as Paul had to face Agrippa, he had to face Festus, he had to face Felix.

Larry: That goes back to Romans 13 about the government power and the sword.

Bob: Right, and so Paul says we're not wrestling against just flesh and blood. It's just not Hulk Hogan. It's not Ric Flair. It's not Triple H. We're wrestling against people that have legal power that can put us in jail, that can put us to death. It's just not the flesh and blood. We're wrestling against the rulers of the darkness of the world; these men that have control.

But a lot of people take this text and they flower off into outer space looking for the devil and the demons. That's not what he's talking about. They are there, alright, but that's not what this text is talking about. It's talking about Christians having to deal with those who are in high places of authority and the spiritual wickedness in high places: the governor, the sheriff, the city council, the mayor, all the way right up to the President, maybe. Spiritual wickedness in high places and they can get the income tax people to come down on us and they can get the ATF or whatever to come down on us and they can get the highway patrol to come down on us and give us a hard time. People with legal power and that's what that text is talking about.

Now, when it comes to demon possession, like I said, if Christ be in you, you're his. If you're Christ's the Holy Spirit dwells in you and there is no demon strong enough that he's going to be able to take possession of you. Now, if someone wants to tell me that they're Christian and they're demon possessed, all I can say is they are giving their own

testimony, not mine and if they're demon possessed, that's their business. Now, I know I've been bothered by various sinful things too, the temptations of the flesh primarily. I've never met the devil face-to-face that I know of. I met some that maybe were close to him but I've never met the devil. Martin Luther, you know, he thought he saw the devil and he said he threw an inkwell at him, an ink bottle. But Jesus met him face-to-face, but I'm just saying we don't have to exaggerate in dealing with demons and the devil. We can be scripturally bounded by what we regard as the devil is able to do and demons are able to do.

I remember we had a young lady in our church and she was almost blind and we went by to pick her up for church; we would take her back and forth. She told me on the way to church one night, she said, "The demons are in the house." I said, "How do you know?" She said, "Well, there was lion lying on my kitchen table and this picture had been turned upside down." First one thing and then another. So when we took her home, she wanted me to go in and look around and see if the demons were still there. So just to satisfy her, I wasn't afraid, I mean, I didn't expect to see any demons and I didn't. Just to satisfy her, I went in and I said, "Where is the lion?" It's not here. It's not on the table. I said, "Where's the picture turned upside down?" It's not turned upside down. "Where is this, that and the other?" Now, you say, "Well, why does this girl say things like that?" I have no idea. Don't ask me to explain the mind working that way.

But I'm just saying that a lot of people come up with these fantasy ideas that somehow got in their head and they come out as demons. Sometimes people are just looking for an excuse to relieve themselves of their own sins, Larry, and they say, "The devil made me do it or I was demon possessed." How many times have you read in the newspaper here lately that somebody is saying, "I killed this, murdered this, done this, robbed this, because the devil told me to do it or something inside me that's not me told me to do it." They're looking for someone to lay the blame on. Psychologically, that's called imputing your sins to somebody else.

Larry: Right, right. You just reminded of a story at my place of employment a couple of years ago. We had a guy who kind of went off the deep end. He was one of our workers and he is a big man. He used to be in the military and he weighed over 300 pounds. He came up to my place of employment and it was the middle of the night and he's banging on the door. I work the night shift so people I work with, whatever. I had talked to this guy before but never nothing, no kind of controversy or anything, he just asked me some Bible questions now and then. Anyway, this one particular night, he comes up and he bangs on the door and he wants to come in but they won't let him in because he didn't have the proper identification. He had already been turned away because he had some kind of medical thing and he had to get permission to get that clear before he could get back into the building. But he's trying to get into the building even though he didn't have permission to be in the building and he's getting more and more violent as he's out there and some workers and people come out there to restrain him as he's trying to get in the building and he's starting to lose his cool. He's starting to curse and swear and get violent with people. At one point he starts to yell, "Look! I've got to get in there! God has told

me! God has told me to go in there and take care of some of these tv preachers like that Larry Wessels!" He mentioned my name.

Bob: God has called your name, you're special.

Larry: Yeah, God told him to come there that night and take care of me. He's getting real violent and he started fighting. They had called the police and it took three policeman or two policeman and they had to taser gun him three times to finally knock him down because he's a big man. He was able to take those taser guns. They tasered him three times and finally they carted him off to jail but he was saying that God told him to come there and, you know, take care of me that night and I thought it was interesting because I worked six nights a week, I work a night shift and I work six days a week, been doing it for the last 20 years, as long as I've been doing television, I've been doing this. I thought it was interesting that he said God told him to come there and take care of me that night and I was telling people God didn't tell him that and people were going, "How do you know? How do you know God didn't tell him to come there?" I said, "Well, because he showed up on the only night of the week I'm not there." I'm there six days and he shows up on the only night that I'm not there.

Bob: God wouldn't make that kind of mistake, would he?

Larry: That's right, you see, God wouldn't make that mistake so I said, "It wasn't God, it was that other guy." But anyway, a lot of it is delusions like you say and people want to blame it on something else. They want to say, "The devil made me do it," or whatever.

Bob: And Larry, we've got some of these preachers today that are practicing hokey-pokey on this. I saw on one of the so-called "Christian networks" some time ago a demonstration of this fellow who has a "ministry" of dealing with the devils and he even had some priest of Satan up there with him. According to the fellow who was talking about all this, he was directing the priest of Satan how to go about his business here for television purposes. I says, "Well, that's natural, isn't it?" because all the stuff he's doing is a bunch of hokey-pokey. I won't call any names but I'm sure some people may know who I'm talking about, pretty well nationally known. But if he has cast out any devils, I haven't seen them running around and I don't expect to.

Larry: Right, so what we have basically is the Bible presents the devil as real and he's out there and is just as real as God is. In fact, you know, Bob, when I first got born again back in 1981 in May, I'll never forget that night, but I got saved on 2 Timothy 3:5 where it says, "Having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof." That's the verse that I was convicted of my sins by the Spirit. But I'll never forget when you're first born again and you're realizing, "Hey, God's real. This Bible, I mean, this is all really true." For the first time, it's like the scales fell off my eyes, but I'll never forget within five or ten minutes of just crying and just praising God and all this stuff, it suddenly dawned on me, "Hey, wait a minute, if God is real, that means there really is a devil out there and he really is out to get me." I'll never forget that. "Holy mackerel, there really is a devil and some demons and this is a cosmic war over here. Holy mackerel!" So I'll never forget

that on the night I was saved and so that had a big impact too. So anyway, I'm just saying that the devil is just as real presented in the Scriptures as Jesus, the Bible, and God wants us to know that. He wants us to know who are adversary is so we can deal with him.

And it goes back to one other point I wanted to bring up that you brought out so beautifully in the fact that God is sovereign, the devil is subservient to God so he's not an equal plane with God. He's way under him, in fact, the devil is sort of just like a servant to God. He accomplishes the things that God would have him to do in fulfilling his purposes, God's eternal purposes. But do you remember on the last supper where Jesus is talking to Judas and he turns to Judas in the Gospels there and he says, "Judas, what thou doest, do quickly." Remember what happened right after Jesus said that to Judas? Satan immediately came into Judas and he went out into the darkness. So it was like Jesus is in command of his own death, his own betrayal, his own crucifixion. He's in command of everything where he even tells Judas, "What thou doest, do quickly." It's like as soon as he says that, the devil like a servant, comes into Judas and he goes out into the darkness.

Bob: And Larry, we have some of these Bible teachers today that I have heard a little talk about taking back the ground that the devil has taken from you, something of that sort. Listen, Satan doesn't have any ground. God has all the ground. So Satan hasn't taken over any ground. You may have in your mind fantasized and in your own mind thought, "Well, Satan has this ground," but I guarantee every square inch of it belongs to the Lord. You don't have to take back any ground that you think Satan's got, all you've got to do is just realize that it's God's and just tell the devil if he's there, "Pack up and roll on, buddy."

Larry: That's right, because that's what the Scripture says, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." Just like that.

Bob: That's right. As long as you're thinking, "Oh, the devil has control of this and ground here in my life," well, if he's got control of it, you're yielding it over to him in your mind but he really doesn't. He doesn't have any ground.

Larry: That's right. Well, praise God. With that, let's move on to our next Unpopular Doctrine, doctrine #64: People do not really want to honestly examine themselves whether they are truly saved by biblical standards or not. They really want to just kind of think they're okay with God in a kind of a nebulous, vague sort of way. But when we look in Scripture, we find in 2 Corinthians 13:5-8, the Apostle Paul there tells us to examine yourselves whether you be in the faith or not. James 1:22-26 says to prove yourselves lest your religion is worthless. He also says in James 2:18-26, even the devils believe in God but you've got to have something to go with that that differentiates yourself from the same fate the devil has. Titus 1:15-16, they professed to know God but their deeds showed that they deny God. 1 John 1:8-10, don't deceive yourselves but confess your sins and he is faithful and just to forgive you of your sins, that's the Lord Jesus Christ. Of course we have here, how are we to be saved? Titus 3:3-8, the washing of regeneration by the Holy Spirit, being born again as the Scriptures talk about.

2 Corinthians 13:5-8. Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? But I trust that ye shall know that we are not reprobates. Now I pray to God that ye do no evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that which is honest, though we be as reprobates. For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.

1 John 1:8-10. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

James 1:22-26. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

Larry: Bob, basically what we have is a situation where most of the people of the world are comfortable, they are at ease in Zion. They traditionally have grown up in, let's say, a Roman Catholic family or a Baptist family or a Presbyterian and they have traditionally grown up that way. They go to church every now and then. If they go to church at Easter and Christmas, that's good enough. That will get them in with God. They're kind of at ease in their religious convictions and they feel like they'll be okay. They have a church affiliation because they go to church now and then. That will get them in and they do some good works here and there. So that will work out for them also. But yet because of that, they never really stop to examine their own lives in detail, examine whether they are living the way the Scripture says. Now, with that idea, I'd like you to just pick it up and run with it a little bit as we get ready to conclude this series.

Bob: Well, we're dealing here, Larry, with a situation that you really don't know how to...we don't really understand or have a comprehension to know what is spiritual today. I mean, I love you and I see all these good things but I don't know your inside. I don't know your heart. I don't know if you're really born of God and you don't know that about me. We don't really know so what do we have? Just this thing you said: the standards. We have to look to Scripture and what are the standards by which I can look at myself and say, "Am I producing the fruit that Jesus said, By their fruits you shall know them? Am I producing the fruits of the Spirit? Am I behaving in a way that is indicative that I've been born again? That the Holy Spirit indwells me?"

And we don't want to spend too much time on that thing but that does confront us: to examine our hearts, to examine our motives, to examine our deeds and actions and attitudes in relationship to other people. Then do we have an attitude to conform? To repent? To correct? To take exhortation? To accept rebuke? And you have some

instances of that in the Bible. Remember when Paul and John Mark split up? He went off one way, well, later he came back and Paul accepted him back. And remember Philemon ran off and Paul was over there at this other place, Rome, and he preached to him and Philemon was converted?

Larry: And he goes back to his master.

Bob: And he went back to his master to make things right. You see, if you're willing to do things that show that you've really conformed to principles that are Christian, spiritual, God-given things in your heart and life, then you are conforming yourself. But I can't judge you. You can't judge me. When we get into church situations, we just have to put it on the level that if this man is not conforming morally and doctrinally and legally to what ought to be that we can see, then we would kindly ask the gentleman to leave because we don't want a bad reputation. I mean, if we've got a drunk in the church, we don't want the people down the street saying, "Old Deacon Jones is a drunk and he is a deacon up at the First Baptist Church." We can't live with that. We've got to say, "Look Deacon Jones, if you're saved, fine, but just go on until you can get rid of that liquor habit and we'll help you. We'll counsel you. We'll even help you find somewhere to go to handle the problem." But we can't have that on our reputation.

So in a church situation, you can't judge people's hearts but you can discipline according to known actions of life; things that you can see; you do know that they are right or wrong. So there are two different levels. Or you don't make judgments based on what you can't know, you make judgments based on what's obvious. What even the outside world can know. They know this man's not living the Christian life so why can't you?

So you say that people do not really want to honestly examine themselves, that's true if they are not sincere Christians. It's the ones that aren't the Christians that don't want to put the light on themselves. The Christians really want to be examined.

Larry: You're talking about real, born again Christians.

Bob: Right. So they can correct if they can, these problems that they have and so a Christian is willing to accept counsel; he's willing to accept exhortation; he's willing to be rebuked, raked over the coals, so to speak.

Larry: Now, you as a Christian and I know this works in my case and I assume as the Spirit operates in our lives that, let's say, you are consciously thinking about doing something wrong that you know is wrong biblically, it's a sin against God. You as a Christian indwelt by the Spirit are convicted every time you want to do premeditated sin whereas someone who doesn't have the Spirit usually doesn't have that problem. Now, in your case as in my case when I am premeditating to actually doing something wrong, I always feel guilty about it whereas before I was born again, I never felt any guilt about doing things that are wrong, in fact, I enjoyed it. But now I feel bad even when I'm trying to do something wrong. I can't seem to hang with it that long without just falling down

and crying out to God, "I'm sorry, Lord." Now, do you have that same kind of problem in your life? It's not really a problem, it's a blessing to have that in your life.

Bob: Well, all that comes under the heading of the sinful character or nature of the flesh. We have natural passions and we have a sinful nature and the lusts of the flesh, the way Paul described it, the lusts of the flesh. We have all that to deal with and that's part of the real spiritual warfare that we have, it's with ourselves. Paul said, "I beat my body black and blue and keep it under subjection." Well, that's what every Christian has, a battle with themselves at times about some of these lusts and passions or whatever of life that some may be legitimate passions and appetites and so forth, and some may be illegitimate. But nevertheless, you are called to in all things be moderate. Let your moderation be known unto all men. Moderate yourself. Self-control. That's the key. You know, you can be as doctrinally sound as who?

Larry: Not the networks.

Bob: But if you don't have self-control, moderation of your life, your practical life, all that doctrine means nothing.

Larry: Right, if you don't apply it to your life.

Bob: You'll just bring disgrace upon it.

Larry: That's right. So it goes back to examining yourselves. You know, that reminds me of before I got saved but I may have already been under, before actual salvation I might have been under some conviction by the Spirit because I remember way back in 1980, I'm driving down the highway. I had just seen this preacher on tv and he was talking about, "Just because you go to church doesn't mean you're going to get saved," and all that good stuff and it really spooked me because I had never heard that before. I grew up in a church and I thought because of this and I did go to church on Christmas and sometimes on Easter and also I thought that would get me in, you know. But I hear this preacher but I had to run to the other side of town that day and I was up in north Austin and I had to go down to south Austin and it was kind of funny. I jumped in my car and I sort of did what we're talking about here in this last Unpopular Doctrine in an offshoot sort of way. I'm doing the 1 Corinthians 13:5-8 thing and I'm examining myself a little as I'm driving down the road and among all this heavy traffic and I'm starting to think, "Hey, I could get killed out here. I could die at any moment because some idiot may hit me and I'll die and that guy, that preacher man on the tv was saying just because you go to church now and then doesn't mean you're actually going to go to heaven." And I started getting nervous about my spiritual state as I'm driving down the road and I'm back still in college at that time but I'm getting convicted and I started to think about myself and say, "Do you know what? I did a lot of bad things." I started going, "God, don't let me get killed out here. Yeah, I think I have done some things." In other words, I started doing a little bit of examination of myself because I always thought because I was raised in a church, I was raised in a Lutheran church in my case, and in that church you had to get confirmed, you had to sit there and answer all these questions from Luther's

small catechism and then if you answered enough questions right out of that catechism by the pastor then they would sign a document and you're confirmed into the church and that way you can take communion. So I thought that was good enough to get me in to heaven, you see, at that time I wasn't born again yet.

But that's what we're talking about here, getting some conviction about your life that you could be right with God and that what you're doing in your life conforms to what God expects you to be doing and unfortunately for most people, they never get to that point. They think they're okay with their church affiliation or some of the vain things they believe.

Larry: Well Bob, we're just about out of time for this program. I want to let our viewers know that they can call or write us for free information on this subject or other subjects that we have available through Christian Answers. The phone number and the mailing address are at the end of the program. You'll also see our websites and email address so you are more than welcome to contact us that way. Bob, I'd like you to take just another quick moment here and mention Pilgrim Publications and the works of Spurgeon that are available through your ministry that people can contact through us if they are interested. Go ahead.

Bob: Well Larry, the primary thing that I have been involved in in my life for several years now has been the publication, distribution of the works of Spurgeon. I do other things but this is primarily what I am engaged in and if people are interested in the publications we have of Spurgeon, we'll be glad to furnish them a price list of all the various titles that we have available which would include his sermons and several books and many other publications that we have by or about Spurgeon.

Furthermore, we have a video on the life of Spurgeon done by Dr. Kenneth Connolly and he did a very good job in giving us a one hour biography of Spurgeon. He went to England and he filmed all over the place over there where Spurgeon was born and was converted and baptized and pastored and all that. That's available.

And we have Spurgeon on cd rom, his sermons and other works are on cd-rom and also not too long ago we did a story of my trip to England, my pilgrimage to Spurgeon country where we filmed all of these localities that are identified with Spurgeon's life and ministry and what went on in those places, just a brief summary about the life of Spurgeon.

Larry: Very good, brother. Well, that's it for our program today. Thank you again for joining us in this series of Unpopular Bible Doctrines. We'll be back again for our next program so join us for that. In the meantime, I'm Larry Wessels with Christian Answers. Bob L. Ross. Bob, thanks for being with us from Pilgrim Publications. We'll see you next time and remember Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father except by me," Jesus said. So through Jesus Christ is the way of salvation unto the eternal God. Thank you so much. God bless you all.

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