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"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning."—Psalm 137, 4-5.

Faith Working by Love.

A SERMON BY REV. C. H. SPURGEON.

"Faith which worketh by love"—Galatians 5: 6.

All ways of justification by human works and outward forms are set aside by the apostle. In one sentence he closes up every road which is cast up by man, and opens up the way of salvation by grace through faith in Christ Jesus. Real faith will save us, but forgeries of it will increase our peril. Assurance is of God, but presumption is of the devil.

THE TEST OF TRUE FAITH

is that it works—*"Faith which worketh,"* saith the text. To that end it must first of all live, for it is clear that a dead faith cannot work. There must be heart in our faith, and the Spirit of God breathing in it or it will not be the living faith of a living child of God.

Being alive, true faith must not sleep, but must arouse itself as a child of the day, for a slumbering faith is matter for heart-searching, since sleep is cousin to death. A

wakeful faith becomes active and in its activity lies much of its proof. "By their fruits ye shall know them," is one of Christ's own rules for testing men and things and we are to know faith by that which comes of it, by what it does for us, and in us, and through us. Faith is not worth having if it is fruitless; it has a name, to live and is dead. If it works not at all it lives not at all, and cannot justify its possessor.

A further distinction is also set forth, that true faith "*worketh by love.*" There are some who do many works as the result of a kind of faith who nevertheless are justified, as for instance, Herod, who believed in John and did many things and yet murdered his minister. His faith did work, but it worked by dread and not love; he feared the stern language of the second Elijah, and the judgments which would come upon him if he rejected the Baptist's warnings, and *his faith worked by fear.*

The great test of the working of saving faith is this, it "*worketh by love.*" If you are led by your faith in Jesus Christ to love Him, and so