

The background of the slide is a light blue gradient. On the right side, there is a vertical, ethereal flame or smoke effect in shades of yellow, orange, and light blue. The main title is centered in a dark blue rectangular box.

THE SPIRIT
AND
HIS WORK

The Spirit and Salvation

Titus 3:3-8

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,



Titus 3:3-8

⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works





1. Why we need the Spirit's saving work

Titus 3:3

Titus 3:3

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.



Ephesians 2:1-3

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.



Ephesians 4:17-19

Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. ¹⁹ They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.



John 3:1-7

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³ Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."



John 3:1-7

⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again





*The Great
Divorce*

C·S· LEWIS

The book cover features a scenic photograph of a valley. In the foreground, there are trees with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow and orange. In the middle ground, a white house with a dark roof and a chimney is visible, partially obscured by the trees. The background shows rolling hills under a clear sky. The title 'The Valley of Vision' is written in a large, white, serif font at the top. Below it, the subtitle 'A COLLECTION OF PURITAN PRAYERS & DEVOTIONS' is in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the editor's name 'ARTHUR BENNETT' is printed in white, sans-serif font, preceded by 'Edited by' in a smaller font.

The Valley of Vision

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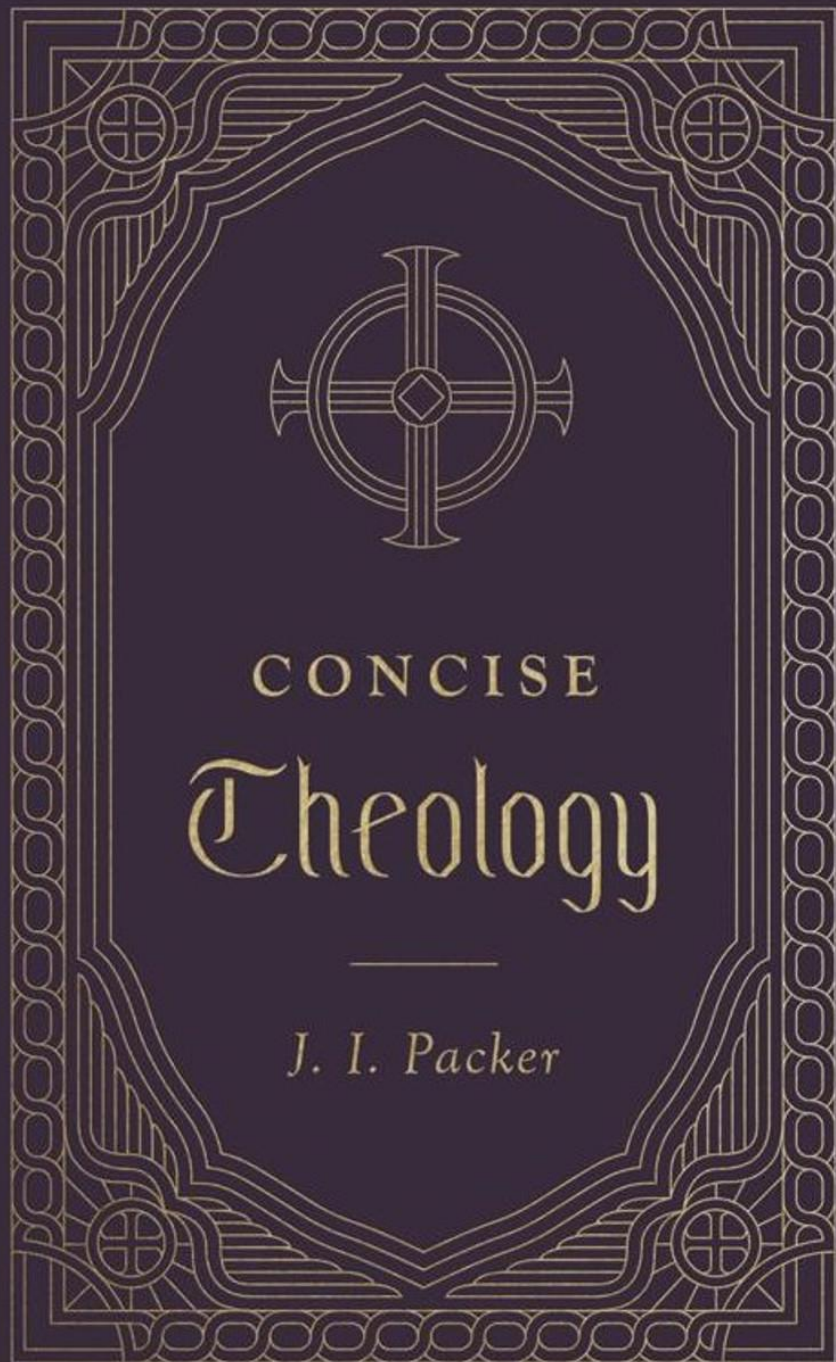
I was dead in iniquities,
having no eyes to see you,
no ears to hear you,
no taste to relish your joys,
no [wisdom] to know you . . .

—From the prayer entitled
“Regeneration” (lightly edited)

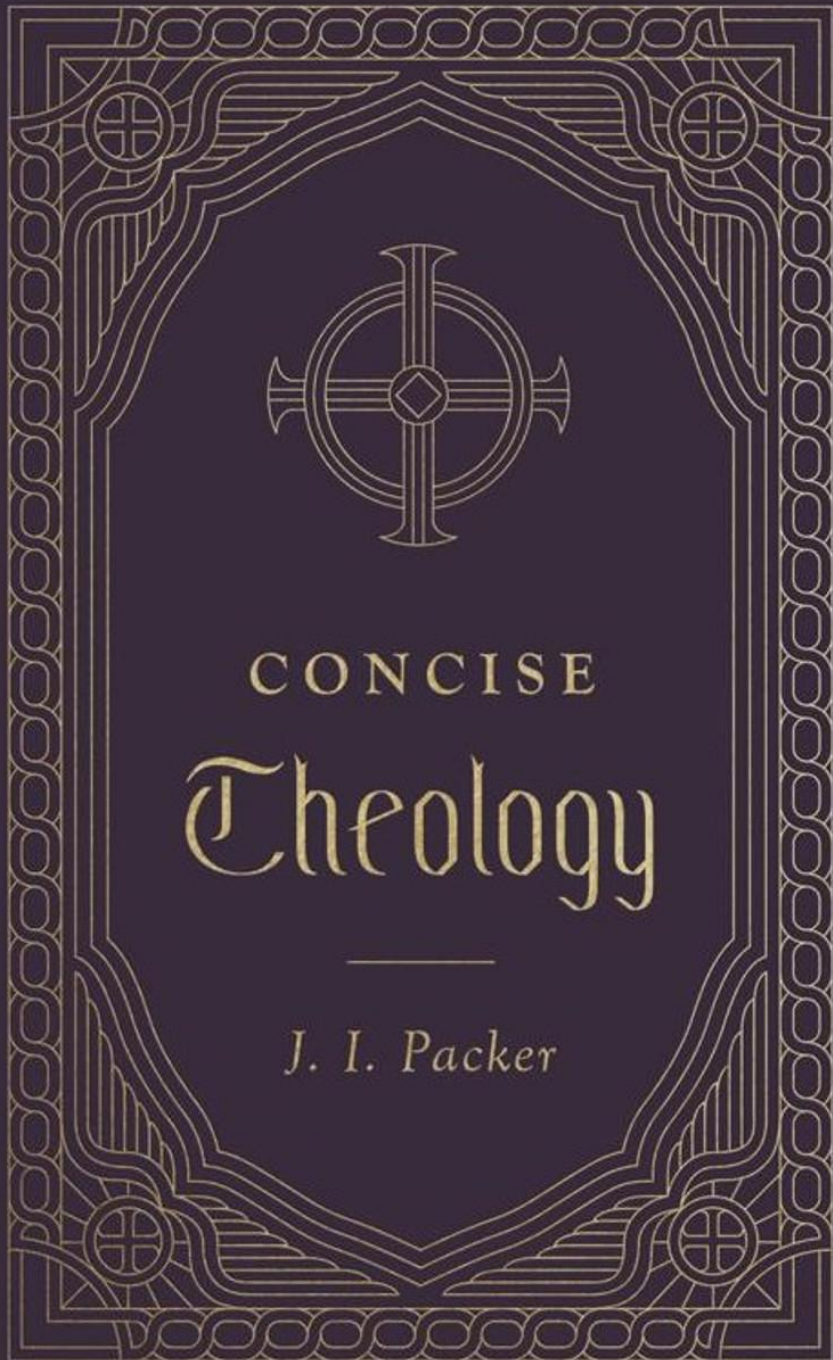
2. What the Spirit does to save us

Titus 3:4-6





Regeneration is a New Testament concept that grew, it seems, out of a parabolic picture-phrase that Jesus used to show Nicodemus the inwardness and depth of the change that even religious Jews must undergo if they were ever to see and enter the kingdom of God, and so have eternal life (John 3:3–15). Jesus pictured the change as being “born again.”



The concept is of God renovating the heart, the core of a person's being, by implanting a new principle of desire, purpose, and action, a dispositional dynamic that finds expression in positive response to the gospel and its Christ.

—J. I. Packer

2. What the Spirit does to save us

Regeneration (or new birth) is:

- a.** a spiritual transformation, not a momentary decision



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- b.** an inward cleansing, not an outward washing (baptism)



Ezekiel 36:25-27

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.



2. What the Spirit does to save us

Regeneration (or new birth) is:

- a.** a spiritual transformation, not a momentary decision
- b.** an inward cleansing, not an outward washing (baptism)
- c.** a new creation, not the reformation of the old



2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

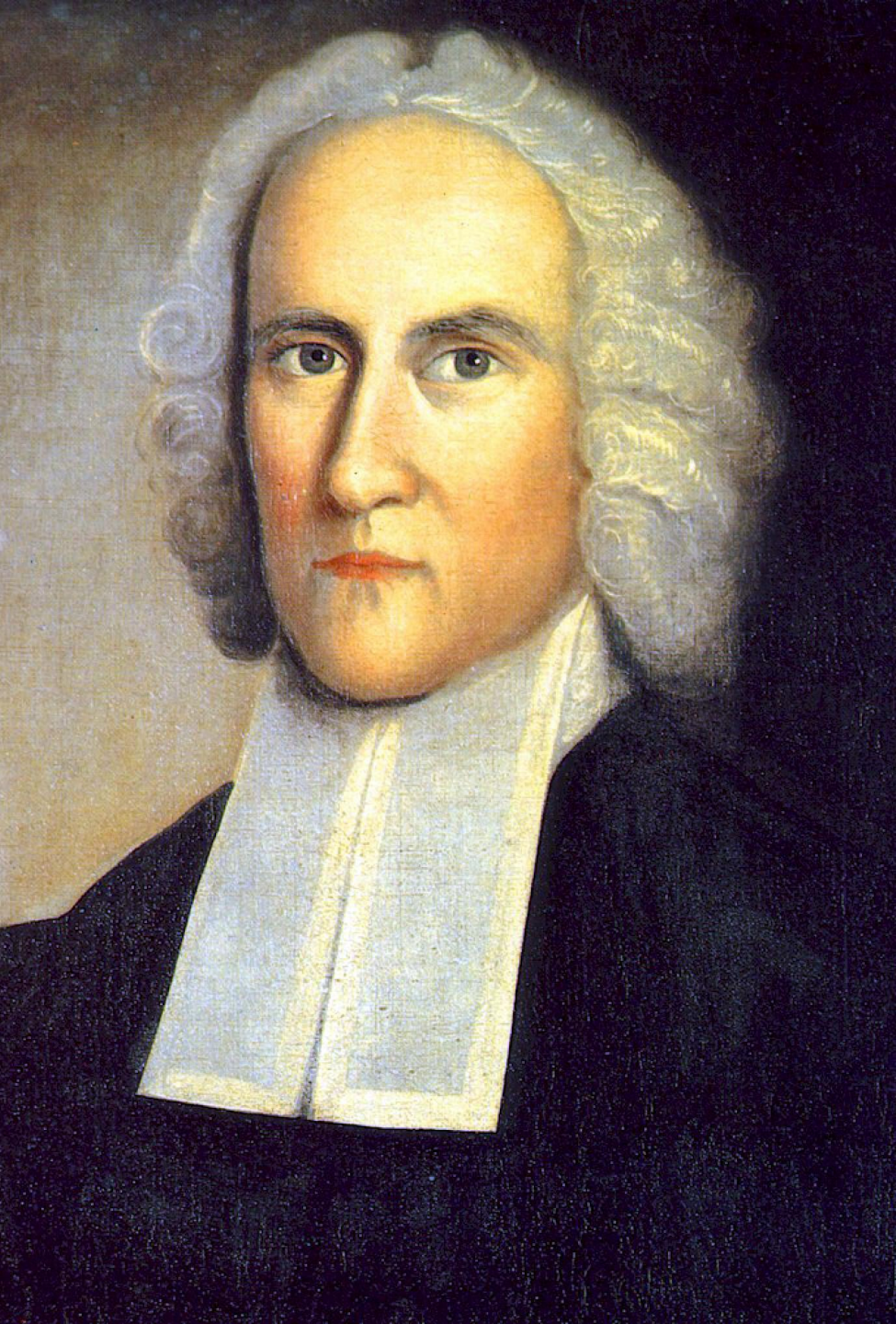


2. What the Spirit does to save us

Regeneration (or new birth) is:

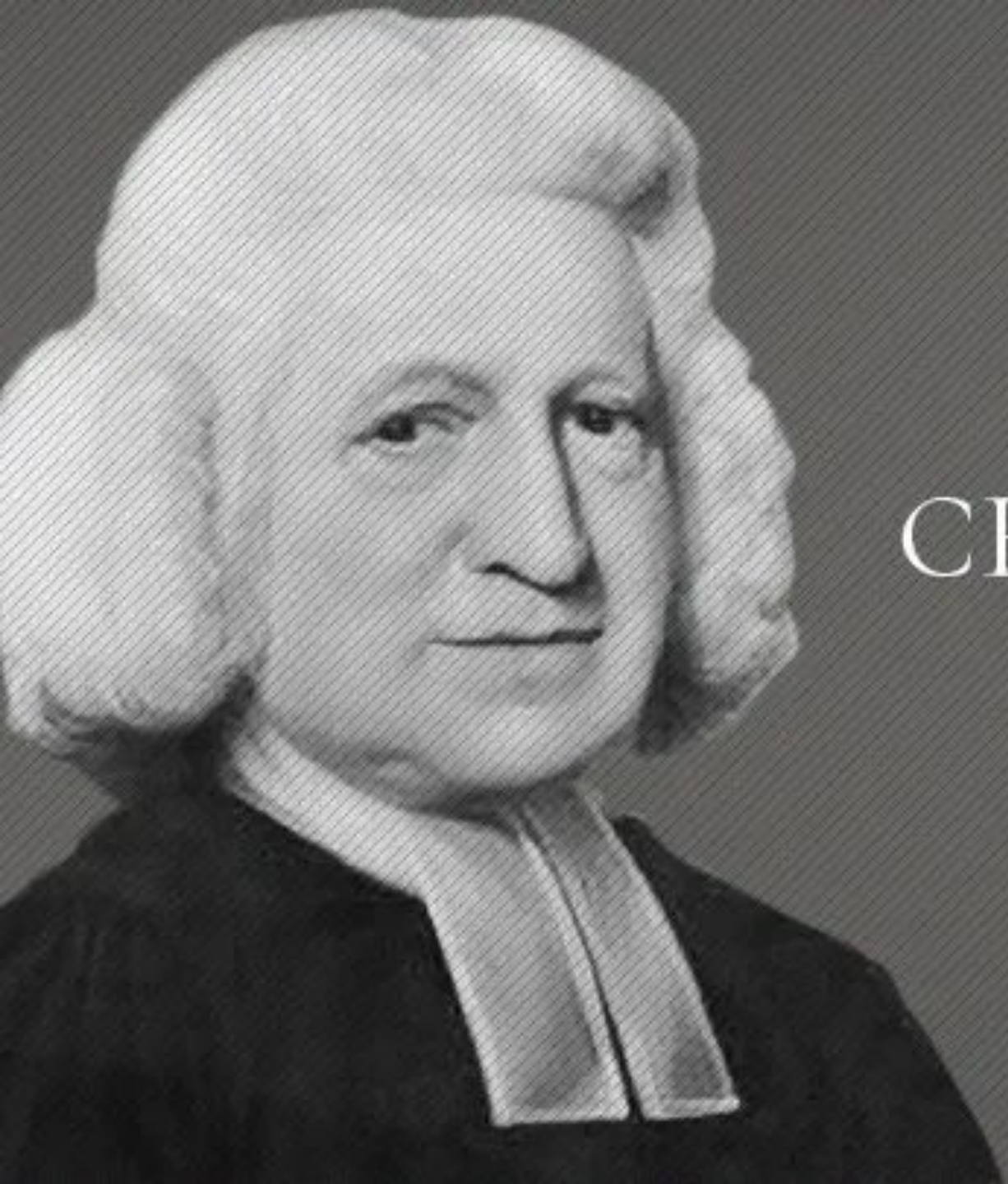
- a.** a spiritual transformation, not a momentary decision
- b.** an inward cleansing, not an outward washing (baptism)
- c.** a new creation, not the reformation of the old
- d.** the beginning of new desires, not just new beliefs





The first effect of the power of God in the heart in *regeneration*, is to give the heart a Divine taste or sense; to cause it to have a relish of the loveliness and sweetness of the excellence of the Divine nature.

—Jonathan Edwards



CHARLES WESLEY

1707-1788

3. The resulting changes in our lives

Titus 3:7-8



Titus 3:7-8

so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ⁸ The saying is trustworthy, and I want you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works



Titus 3:1-2

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people ³ for we ourselves were once foolish . . . ⁴ but God . . .



The book cover features a scenic photograph of a valley. In the foreground, there are trees with vibrant yellow and orange autumn foliage. In the middle ground, a white house with a dark roof is visible, partially obscured by the trees. The background shows rolling hills under a clear sky. The title 'The Valley of Vision' is written in a large, white, serif font at the top. Below it, the subtitle 'A COLLECTION OF PURITAN PRAYERS & DEVOTIONS' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the text 'Edited by ARTHUR BENNETT' is written in a white, sans-serif font.

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O God of the highest heaven,
occupy the throne of my heart,
take full possession and reign supreme,
lay low every rebel lust,
let no vile passion resist your holy war;
manifest your mighty power,
and make me yours forever.

You are worthy to be
praised with my every breath,

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loved with my every faculty of soul,
served with my every act of life.

You have loved me . . . received me,
purchased, washed, favored,
clothed, adorned me,
when I was a worthless, vile,
soiled, polluted.

I was dead in iniquities,
having no eyes to see you,



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no ears to hear you, no taste to relish
your joys, no [wisdom] to know you;
But your Spirit has quickened me,
has brought me into a new world as a
new creature, has given me spiritual
perception, has opened to me your
Word as light, guide, solace, joy.
Your presence is to me a treasure of
unending peace. . .

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O help me then to walk worthy of your
love, of my hopes, and my calling.

Keep me, for I cannot keep myself;

Protect me that no evil befall me;

Let me lay aside every sin. . .

Help me to walk by your side, lean on
your arm, hold conversation with you,

That I may be salt of the earth

and a blessing to all.