

## Windows of Witness (George Müller)

Reference, Quotes from - "21 Servants of Sovereign Joy" by John Piper, 2001 Crossway

"For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Acts 4:20

I am excited this month to continue the joy of viewing the events and testimonies of individuals who have surrendered their lives in service to God. May our Lord draw us closer to Himself through their example.

George Müller, born in 1805, spent the majority of his life in Bristol, England where he pastored the same church there for over sixty-six years.

Müller reflected, at the age of 71, on the reading of the Bible as the key for spiritual joy in our walk with God. He called the reading of Scripture, "God's appointed means for the nourishment of the inner man...consider it, ponder over it." He continued, saying, "I have read through the whole Bible about 100 times and I always find it fresh when I begin again. Thus my peace and joy have increased more and more." Five years later at the age of 76 he writes, "I saw that the most important thing I had to do was to give myself to the reading of the word of God, and to meditation on it...what is the food of the inner man?...but the word of God."

In 1834, at the young age of 28, Müller founded the Scripture Knowledge Institution, where among other accomplishments of the institution, he made it a priority "to board, clothe and Scripturally educate *destitute* children who have lost both parents by death."

It is this orphanage ministry for which George Müller was, and in fact still is, known around the world. He built five large houses specifically for orphaned children. He never asked anyone for money, but trusted God to put in people's hearts to send and supply the needs of the mission. He cared for over 10,000 orphans during his life, yet "neither he nor the orphans were ever hungry." All of this while he preached at least 3 times a week between 1830 and 1898. He leaned heavy on God's Sovereign supply for the mission and the church which he pastored. George Müller was a servant of God. He was a student of God's Word. He relied upon God to meet every need of his work for Him. I leave you with his own words:

"My dear Christian reader, will you not try this way? Will you not know for yourself...the preciousness and the happiness of this way of casting all your cares and burdens and necessities upon God? This way is as open to you as to me...Every one is invited and commanded to trust in the Lord, to trust in Him with all his heart, and to cast his burden upon Him, and to call upon Him in the day of trouble. Will you not do this, my dear brethren in Christ? I long that you may do so. I desire that you may taste the sweetness of that state of heart, in which, while surrounded by difficulties and necessities, you can yet be at peace, because you know that the living God, your Father in heaven, cares for you."

~ Pastor Tim Hodge