

FASCINATED CHRISTIANS, Gal. 3:1

"Who has bewitched you?" (This is the only time this word is used in the N.T.)

I. Fascinated By The Serpent

1. Like a snake charming little birds.

2. Cf. Serpent in the Garden of Eden.

3. Superstition of "the evil eye", the power of hurting, even slaying, with a glance.

4. Fascinations which turn us from obedience to the truth.

A. Worldliness

"I am resolved no longer to linger,
Charmed by the world's delights;

Things that are higher, things that are nobler,
These have allured my sights."

B. Intellectualism

C. Novelty

D. Self-will.

The real enemy is within our own heart.

No outward temptation has any power to seduce,
unless we choose to allow it.

If you carry a keg of gunpowder around within your heart, you cannot blame the match if an explosion comes.

E. Covetous desires

F. Evil companions

III. FASCINATED BY THE SAVIOR

II. Fascinated by the Savior)

1. Christ Crucified is the counter charm
2. Hearts and minds that are occupied with Him will not have the lower and grosser tastes.
3. You may be as powerless of yourself before temptation as a hummingbird before a snake; but if you look fixedly to Jesus, neither the glittering eye of the serpent, nor the forked tongue with its hiss, will harm or frighten you.
4. The Fascination of the Cross should destroy all sinful fascinations.
 - A. Self-denial instead of worldliness
 - B. Humility instead of intellectual pride
 - C. Steadfastness in place of novelty in doctrine
 - D. Submission to the will of God

"Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of the world will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace."