

An Audience with the King

The Life and Ministry of George Mueller

Night was falling over the harbor of Bristol, England, and in the orphanage founded by George Müller and his wife, the children were getting ready for bed. George was working in his study when his wife arrived with alarming news. “We’re out of milk,” she said. “There isn’t enough for the morning oatmeal”

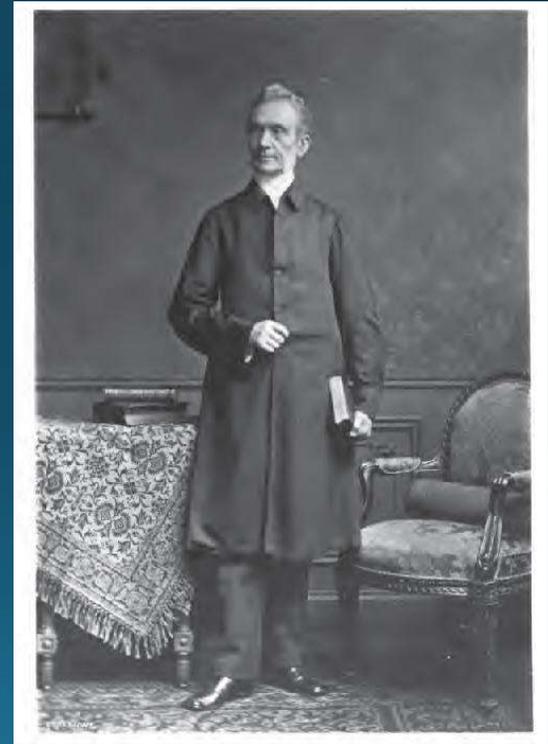


George laid aside his pen. This wasn't the first time that money needed to buy food and other supplies was tight. The Müllers took in their first group of thirty girls in 1836, and their orphanage now housed over a hundred. From the first George remained resolved never to ask for funds from people or to borrow money. He went to God alone for every need, trusting wholly in the Lord's faithfulness and provision. The pastor rose from his desk and reached for his wife's hand. "Mary," he said, "let us pray." Two orphanage employees joined them, and together they made their humble yet necessary request to God. Tiny, helpless mouths were depending on them for sustenance.

Someone knocked on the door. Mary hurried to answer, returning to the study a moment later. She handed her husband an envelope. "It's a letter, George. Hurry up and open it." Enclosed was a sum of money, more than enough for the milk. Within minutes, two more letters arrived with money and pledges of support. The children of the orphanage would have more than enough milk and oatmeal for their breakfast the next morning. "Be assured, if you walk with Him and look to Him and expect help from Him," George reminded them afterwards, "He will never fail you."

The Life of George Mueller

- Born in Prussia
- Born on September 27, 1805
- Died on March 10, 1898

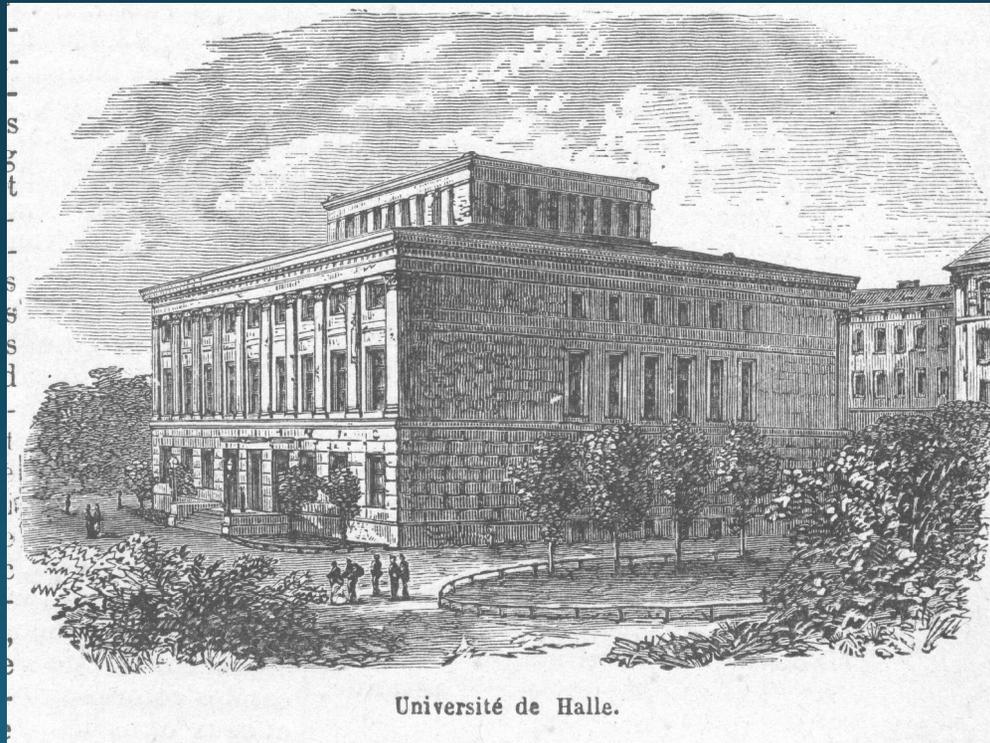


The Life of George Mueller

- Early Life
 - Mother died when he was 14
 - Father was a revenue collector for the government
 - Sentenced to debtor's prison when he was 16

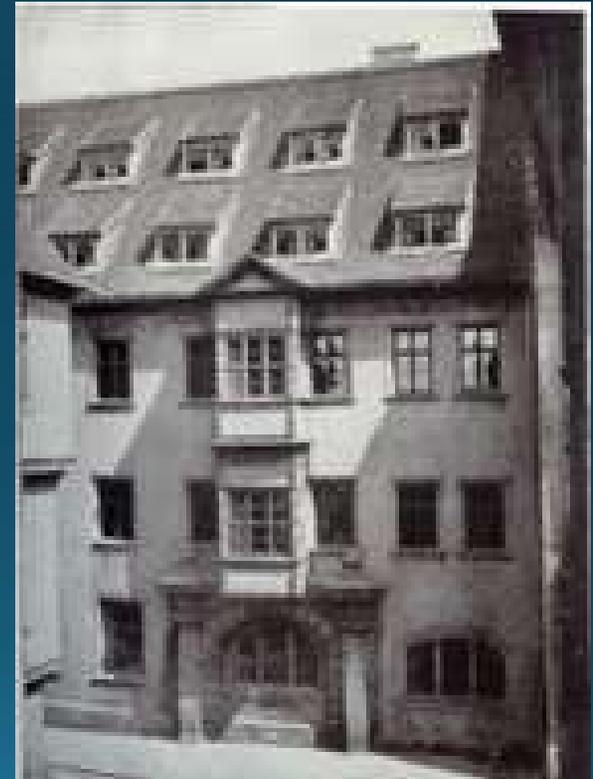
The Life of George Mueller

- Sent to Lutheran Seminary at the University of Halle



The Life of George Mueller

- November 1825
- Age 20:
 - Student Prayer Meeting in the home of Johan Wagner



House of Johan Wagner

The Life of George Mueller

- **Mueller:** “This kneeling down made a deep impression upon me, for I had never either seen any one on his knees, nor had I ever myself prayed on my knees.”

The Life of George Mueller

- **Mueller:** “I have not the least doubt that on that evening He began a work of grace in me. That evening was the turning point in my life.”
- **1829:** embraced the doctrines of grace

The Life of George Mueller

- **1830:** married Mary Groves
- **1830:** gives up his salary from his church
- **1832:** moves to Bristol, England, to pastor Bethesda Chapel
- **1834:** founds the Scripture Knowledge Institute for Home and Abroad



Bethesda Chapel

The Life of George Mueller

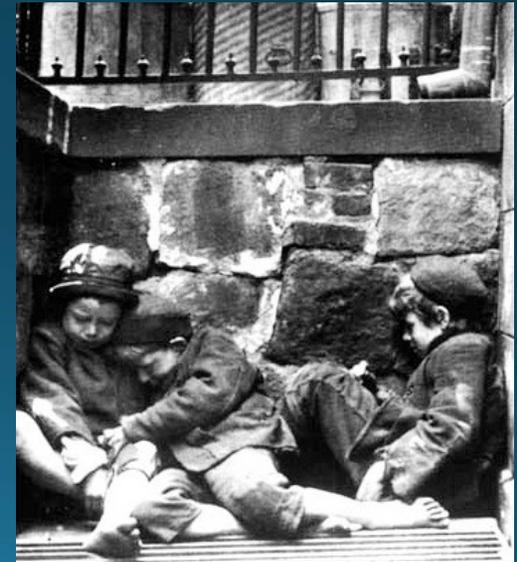
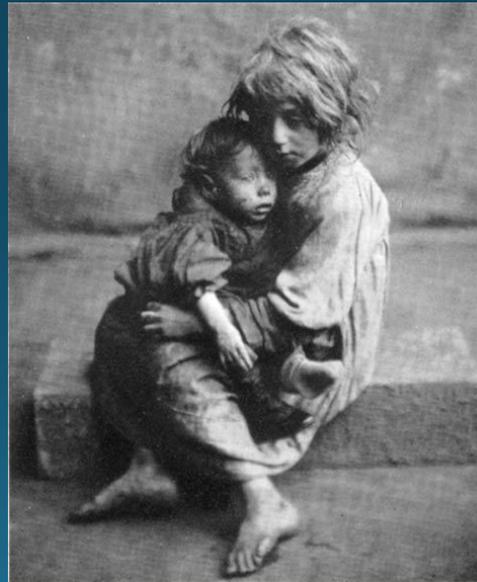
- Goals of the Scripture Knowledge Institute for Home and Abroad
 1. Schools for children and adults to teach Bible knowledge
 2. Bible distribution
 3. Missionary support to other lands
 4. Tract and book distribution
 5. "to board, clothe and Scripturally educate *destitute* children who have lost both parents by death."

The Life of George Mueller

- 122,000 people taught
- Distributed 285,000 Bibles
- 1.5 Million New Testaments
- 112 million Biblical books, pamphlets, and tracts
- Supported missionaries all around the world, including Hudson Taylor
- housed, cared for and educated over 10,000 orphans.

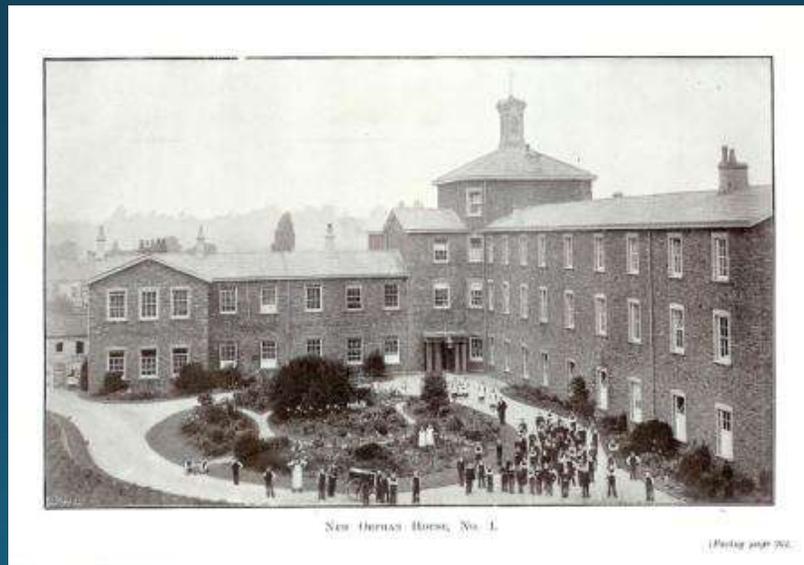
The Life of George Mueller

- 1836: took in 30 orphan girls
- Very poor conditions for orphans in 1800s



The Life of George Mueller

- November 18, 1836, the first orphan house at Ashley Down opened



Orphan House, No. 1



The Five Orphan Houses of Ashley Down

The Life of George Mueller

- **George wrote:** “It simply needed to be seen, that if I a poor man, simply by prayer and faith could establish and carry out an orphan house, it could be instrumental in strengthening the faith of Christians and serve as a testimony to the unconverted of the reality of the things of God.”

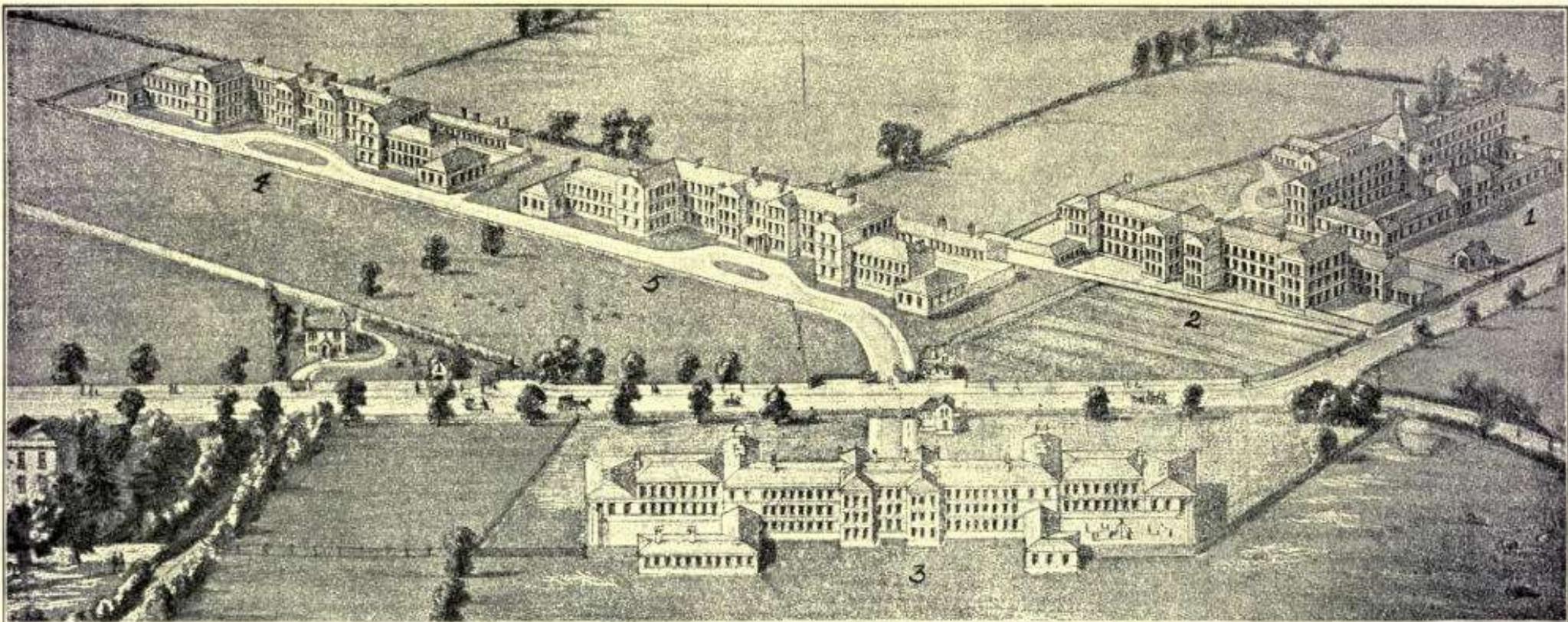
The Life of George Mueller

“The three chief reasons for establishing an orphan house are:

1. That God may be glorified, should He be pleased to furnish me with the means, in its being seen that it is not a vain thing to trust in Him; and that thus the faith of His children may be strengthened.
2. The spiritual welfare of fatherless and motherless children.
3. Their temporal welfare.

The Life of George Mueller

- **Mueller:** “The first and primary object of the work was, (and still is) that God might be magnified by the fact that the orphans under my care are provided, with all they need, only by prayer and faith, without any one being asked by me or my fellow-laborers, whereby it may be seen, that God is FAITHFUL STILL, and HEARS PRAYER STILL.”



THE FIVE NEW ORPHAN HOUSES, ASHLEY DOWN, BRISTOL.

The Life of George Mueller



Orphan Girls in School

The Life of George Mueller

- **1875-1892:** 14 missionary journeys
 - Britain, Europe, Australia twice, India twice, Africa, America 4 times

Childlike Faith in Prayer to God

- **John 14:13-14:** "Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do *it.*"

Childlike Faith in Prayer to God

- **Pierson:** "One sentence from Mr. Muller's pen marks the purpose which was the very pivot of his whole being: 'I have joyfully dedicated my whole life to the object of exemplifying how much may be accomplished by prayer and faith.'"

Childlike Faith in Prayer to God

- “About that time Mr. Muller himself walked in covered with dust. One of the deacons got up and said, ‘Mr. Muller we are distressed about the drought and we thought we ought to take it to the Lord. Is it right to pray for rain?’ And he said, ‘yes, let us pray.’ Then he stood up and prayed just like a little child, ‘O Lord, see the travelers choked with dust on the thoroughfares, see the people’s crops and gardens impoverished. Lord, God, send rain to thy people.’ And before they were dismissed, the rain came and flooded all that section of the country. Dr. Ford in telling about it, said the most impressive thing he ever witnessed in his entire life was Mr Muller’s childlike manner and the faith with which he took hold of the promises of God.”

- "The Mueller's set off for the United States in August 1877 aboard the Sardinian...Off Newfoundland the weather turned cold and the ship's progress was seriously retarded by fog. The captain had been on the bridge for 24 hours when something happened which was to revolutionize his life. George Mueller appeared on the bridge.
- "Captain, I have come to tell you I must be in Quebec by Saturday afternoon."
- "It is impossible," said the captain.
- "Very well, " said Mueller, "if your ship cannot take me, God will find some other way--I have never broken an engagement for 52 years. Let us go down into the chart-room and pray."
- The Captain wondered which lunatic asylum Mueller had come from.

- "Mr. Mueller," he said, "do you know how dense this fog is?"
- "No, my eye is not on the density of the fog, but on the living God, who controls every circumstance of my life."
- He got down on his knees and prayed one of the most simple prayers. I muttered to myself: 'That would suit a children's class where the children were not more than eight or nine years old.' The burden of his prayer was something like this: 'O Lord, if it is consistent with Thy will, please remove this fog in five minutes. You know the engagement you made for me in Quebec Saturday. I believe it is your will.'
- When he had finished the captain was about to pray, but Mueller put his hand on his shoulder, and told him not to.

- "First, you do not believe He will' and second, I believe He has, and there is no need whatever for you to pray about it."
- The captain looked at Mueller in amazement.
- "Captain," he continued, I have known my Lord for 52 years, and there has never been a single day that I have failed to get an audience with the King. Get up, captain, and open the door, and you will find the fog is gone."
- The captain walked across to the door and opened it. The fog had lifted."
- On Saturday afternoon, I may add, George Mueller was there on time."

Humble Submission to the Will of God

- **Matthew 6:33:** “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

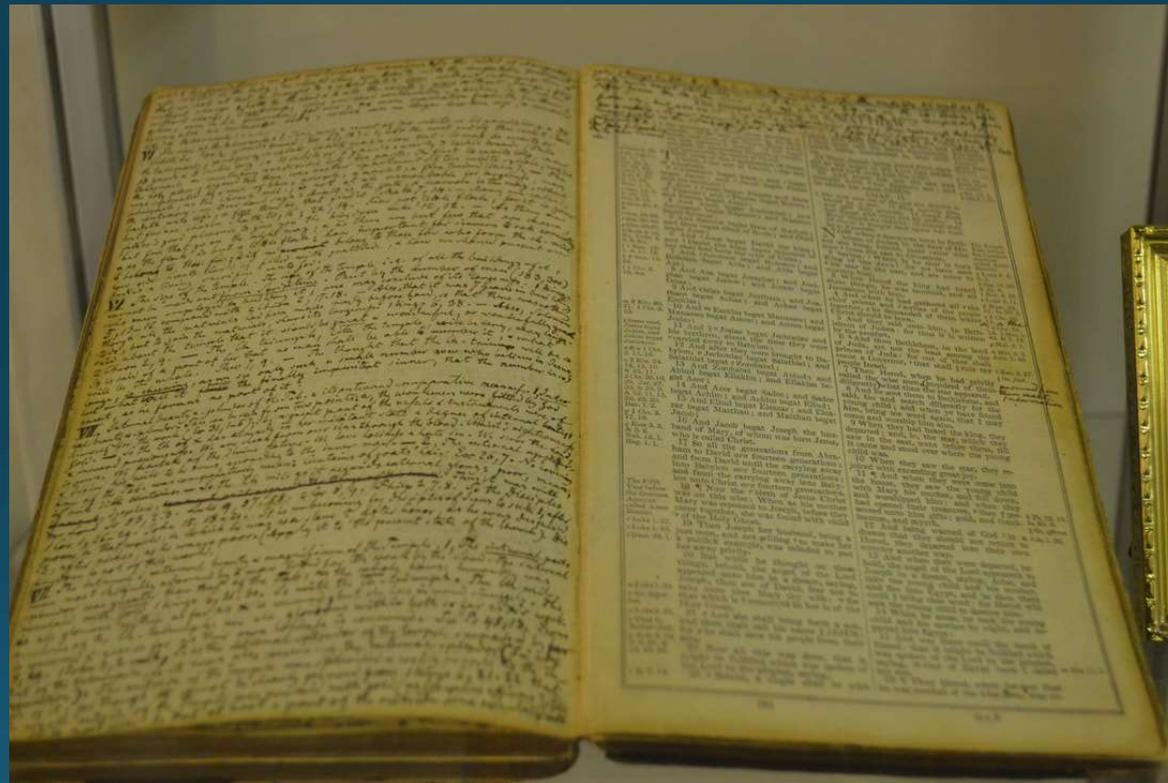
Humble Submission to the Will of God

- I seek at the beginning to get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to a given matter. Nine-tenths of the trouble with people is just here. Nine-tenths of the difficulties are overcome when our hearts are ready to do the Lord's Will, whatever it may be. When one is truly in this state, it is usually but a little way to the knowledge of what His will is.

Daily Dependence Upon the Word of God

- **John 8:31-32:** “If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine; 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”
- **Psalm 37:4:** “Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart.”

Daily Dependence Upon the Word of God



George Muller's Bible

Daily Dependence Upon the Word of God

- **Mueller:** “I saw more clearly than ever, that the first great and primary business to which I ought to attend every day was, to have my soul happy in the Lord. The first thing to be concerned about was not, how much I might serve the Lord, how I might glorify the Lord; but how I might get my soul into a happy state, and how my inner man may be nourished...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? Not *prayer*, but *the word of God*; and . . . not the simple reading of the word of God, so that it only passes through our minds, just as water runs through a pipe, but considering what we read, pondering over it, and applying it to our hearts”

Unrelenting Confidence in the Goodness of God

- **Psalm 84:11:** “For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.”

- **Mueller:** “The last portion of scripture which I read to my precious wife was this: “The Lord God is a sun and shield, the Lord will give grace and glory, no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.” Now, if we have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, we have received grace, we are partakers of grace, and to all such he will give glory also. I said to myself, with regard to the latter part, “no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly”—I am in myself a poor worthless sinner, but I have been saved by the blood of Christ; and I do not live in sin, I walk uprightly before God. Therefore, if it is really good for me, my darling wife will be raised up again; sick as she is. God will restore her again. But if she is not restored again, then it would not be a good thing for me. And so my heart was at rest. I was satisfied with God. And all this springs, as I have often said before, from taking God at his word, believing what he says.”

The Life of George Mueller

- Died on March 10, 1898 at the age of 92



Picture of George Mueller on his 90th birthday



George Muller's Funeral. Funeral Procession, Orphan Boys Following the Hearse

"In Loving Memory of George Muller, Founder of the Ashley Down Orphanage.

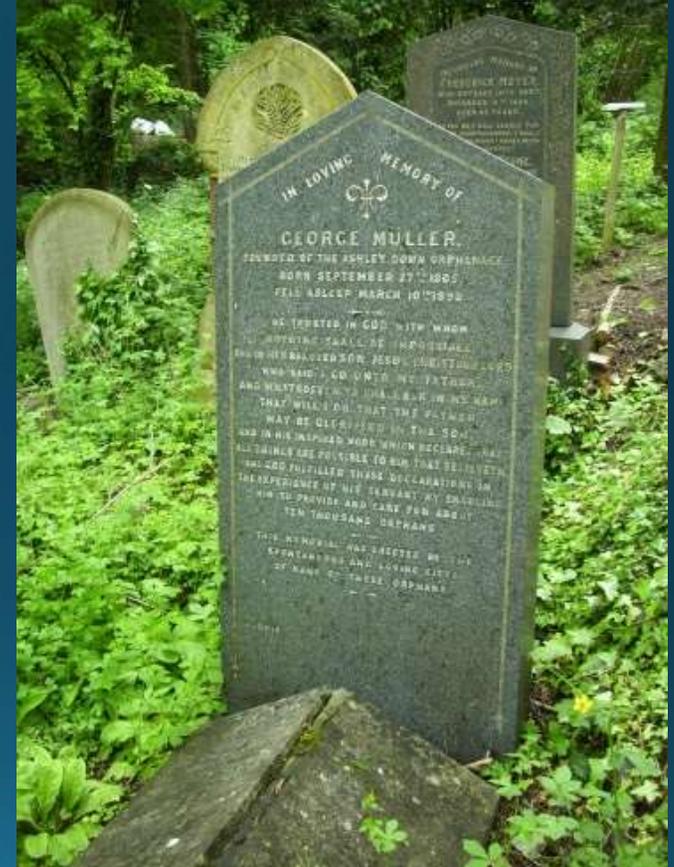
Born September 27, 1805

Fell asleep March 10, 1898

He trusted in God with whom "nothing shall be impossible," and in His beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord who said "I go unto My Father, and whatsoever ye shall ask in My name that will I do that the Father, may be glorified in the Son."

and in His inspired word which declares that "All things are possible to Him that believeth."

And God fulfilled these declarations in the experience of His servant by enabling him to provide and care for about ten thousand orphans."



George Muller's Grave

Most images and pictures are from www.georgemuller.org