

Date: March 24, 2019

Sermon Title: Power of a New Affection

Speaker: Richard Smith

Scripture text(s):

- 1) Why do you read your Bible?
- 2) Richard said that one of the enemies we deal with is fear. What did he say is more powerful than fear?
- 3) Discuss what "lesser things" are. What prevents you from looking at lesser things?
- 4) What does the word "expulsive" mean? What is the significance of this word in the context of lesser things vs. greater things?
- 5) Richard quoted Thomas Chalmers--"A man will only give up sinful affections when his heart is filled with a new affection." Discuss how this works and what affects it has on our lives.
- 6) What do you need in order to desire to leave a lesser pleasure?
- 7) Richard gave these three ways we're affected by affections: (1) Our hearts are created by God to desire, we were created to want. (2) Merely seeing the worthlessness of sinful pleasures will not dislodge them from our heart. (3) The pleasures of sin cannot be evicted until we see something more pleasurable. Discuss each one of these.
- 8) Richard said that having a great affection doesn't mean our struggle with sin is over. How can you keep pressing on? Where do you find your hope and strength when the struggle is intense? How does having a greater affection help you in the midst of the struggle with sin?