



The Letters of Samuel Rutherford

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The seventeenth-century devotional letters of Samuel Rutherford, most of which were written during imprisonment for the sake of the Gospel, are presented for the edification of a new generation of readers.

The Letters of Samuel Rutherford Details

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Author : Samuel Rutherford

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From Reader Review The Letters of Samuel Rutherford for online ebook

King'Samson David Samson Dawit says

This is how a book should be written from the New Testament with encouragement and medical findings that are remedies! No wonder Mr.Rutheford has an element named after him because while very knowledgeable, he puts away foolish pride and speaks strictly from The Bible. A physicians book.

John & Joanna Stumbo says

Samuel Rutherford, a pastor in England during the 1600's. For a season he was exiled from his congregation in England by the state church. They sent him to a different part of the country and banned him from preaching. In his state of exile, he wrote numerous letters to friends which have been preserved in this book.

A few months into exile he wrote of his inability to preach which he referred to as his "sad silence." On November 22, 1636 he wrote,

"I have wrestled long with this sad silence. I said, what aileth Christ at my service? And my soul has been at pleading with Christ...But I will yield to him, providing my suffering may preach more than my tongue did...In a word, I am a fool, and he is God. I will hold my peace hereafter."

My own odd circumstances of being "silenced" for a season due to my health, caused my heart to resonate with Rutherford's. Since this book is a collection of personal letters, there are many allusions and references that mean nothing to me; but the heart of the man comes through and addressed issues within my own.

Daniel Wells says

I'm thankful for Rutherford's emphasis that we 'feast with Christ' especially in our suffering.

Ryan Reed says

This was good. Some of Rutherford's statements were fantastic and convicting, but the overall work wasn't my favorite. It would've been more effective if I had read a biography of Rutherford's life before I read it.

Brian Whited says

A beautiful collection of letters from a pastor to those under his care. This seems to be a very lost art, email is not the same.

Quotes

The old ashes of the sins of my youth are new fire of sorrow to me. I have seen the devil, as it were, dead and buried, and yet rise again, and be a worse devil than ever he was: therefore, my brother, beware of a green young devil, that has never been buried.

The more pain, and the more night-watching, and the more fevers, the better. A soul bleeding to death, till Christ were sent for, and cried for in all haste, to come and stem the blood, and close up the hole in the wound with His own heart and balm, were a very good disease, when many are dying of a whole heart.

Nisin Mathew says

Read it fully

This was such a great book. I benefitted so much seeing the heart of a man who loves Jesus and loves his people. I wish I read it more slowly. At times the language is hard but it's worth ploughing through. I'm looking forward to some of the letters. Loved it!

Molly Marie says

This is not a particularly easy read (largely because of language differences and phrases that are difficult to understand), but it is certainly rich! Rutherford was in love with Christ and was willing to let go of all else in order to gain Christ and delight in Him. If you take the time to wade through its density, there are lots of gems scattered throughout this book!

Chris Comis says

Rutherford was one of those men who could write a polemical political treatise, then turn around and write a letter to a mom in his church whose child had just passed away. These letters are filled with a deep sense of compassion and sympathy for those Christians in his day who were suffering persecution by the crown, or just undergoing severe trials in life.

The thing that amazed me the most though, was the number of times he refers to Jesus as the "sweet" lover of his soul, and then he would quote the Song of Solomon as a proof text. Rutherford was a manly Puritan who had no problem talking about his personal relationship to Christ in marital categories. Given his context, he was definitely no sentimentalist, but he understood well the sentiments of a passionate Lover who longs to be intimate with His bride.

Ashley McKnight says

Incomplete addition

I love Rutherford's letters. Yet I was gutted to get to the end of this addition only to discover it is incomplete. Close to 100 letters are missing compared to the printed addition. Very disappointing.

Michael Stilley says

I went through this devotionally, reading one or two entries a day. Very good.

Peter Clegg says

A great example of someone who truly loves the people he serves.

Tori Samar says

For various reasons, it took me awhile to finish this. Normally, I don't like my reading a book to turn into a months' long endeavor, but in this case, stepping into this man's mindset day after day for four months was the best possible thing that could have happened. When you spend that much time reading the letters of man who was all-consumed with Jesus Christ and living in light of eternity, your own thinking starts to change as well. That was certainly true of my experience with this book. When a book grabs hold of me like that, I know I've found something truly spectacular. (And his beautiful writing style is an added bonus!).

Jacob Aitken says

An old classic. Not all of the letters, but a fine selection nonetheless. Good to orchestrate in one's prayer time.

Joshua Horn says

Rutherford writes in a way unlike anyone else I've read. He is wonderful at communicating love for God, desire for heaven, and countless other concepts in beautiful language, pulling much wording from the Bible itself. I believe you will find this quite encouraging in your Christian walk.

The one thing that I would say against this book, is that if it were read too quickly, it could get repetitive. It is a series of letters, so many concepts are repeated, and there isn't much of a flow. It is well suited to devotional type reading - just a few letters on every sitting.

I've read most of this book, but had to set it down for a time. Looking forward to when I can finish it.

Ray says

Samuel Rutherford (1600-61) was one of the great Scottish puritan Presbyterians, most famous today for his *Lex Rex*. He was an ardent Calvinist, and was awaiting trial for treason when he died. His letters were collected in printed posthumously (1664). This nicely packaged *Banner of Truth* set are an abridged edition.

"I find it most true, that the greatest temptation out of hell is to live without temptations. If my waters should stand, they would rot. Faith is the better of the free air, and of the sharp winter storm in its face. Grace withereth without adversity. The devil is but God's master fencer, to teach us to handle our weapons."

-Samuel Rutherford
