The whole graveyard would have come out. The Holy Spirit convicts the world. That’s a vital ministry. It has to be under certain all service for god. Early in my ministry before preaching I’d say oh lord can, may thy spirit do its convicting work. I have long since quit praying that needless prayer. Don’t you ever dare tell the Holy Spirit to do his office work. Tell, in prayer, pray that god will so open hearts that they’ll respond. The Holy Spirit knows his work. He’s always doing it. He convinces unsaved men in the world of sin. John 16: 8 to 11. When he comes, he’s going to convince, of what? Prove the world of sin, righteousness of judgement. Of sin, he tells what that is. The Holy Spirit is interested in doing one thing, he wants to convince, persuade beyond a purred venture [sp?] of a doubt, everyone who is unsaved, of sin. Because they don’t believe in him. Not because they’ve committed adultery, robbery, murder, no. the greatest sin of all, Luther was right he said the all condemning damning sin is unbelief. He’s right. Because they believe not on me. That’s what’s going to keep folk out of heaven. And he’s going to convince him of righteous. Because I go to my father and you see me no more. It’s a finished work. It’s not got to be redone. It wasn’t botched up, it wasn’t half done. And of judgement, because the prince of this world is judge. Yes. You see, the sin is mans, the righteousness is Christ’s, and the judgement is that of Satan. Every one of those phases is vital. We don’t beseech the Holy Spirit to do that. He does it as appointed of the father and the son. Among the great preachers of England, I love to read of Charles Wesley. John Wesley. I stood there at Wesley’s room, when my daughter and I were at oxford in 64 at Lincoln inn. And the place, all the stares all worn, and the room where he prayed where he lived where he worked.
Think of Wesley, when he couldn’t remember a passage in the New Testament in English. This is fact, not fiction. He remembered it in Greek. What a man he was. Well Wesley was a great friend of George Whitfield, that they were right on the same side of Calvinism and arminianism. But George Whitfield was a marvelous preacher of the word. He preached in the states as well. He went to preach once at Exeter in England. A Russian went to the meeting, and he said I’m going to get even with that fellow. He is getting too close to too many people. And so he filled his pockets full of stones he was going to throw at the preacher. He waited through the prayer, he thought it would be a lot better sport to stop Whitfield after he got started preaching. As soon as the text was named, he pulled a stone. Waited for a good opportunity to throw it. But the holy spirit of god sent almost the first sentences straight to his heart. And that stone fell from his hand. When the sermon was over, he was big enough to go up to Whitfield and say sir; I came to hear you intending to break your head. But the spirit of god through your words has broken my heart. The man was gloriously saved. Became an influential servant of god. Thank god for the abundant ministry of the Holy Spirit his wonderful person. Isn’t that a provision? You don’t find talk about the Holy Spirit in Judaism. I know from experience. You can get rabbinical courses, they don’t talk, they talk about ruach hakodesh, and they mean by that, that’s the Holy Spirit. But they mean god himself, just god. No, there is a trinity, a tri-unity in the god head. Thank god. The Holy Spirit is a wonderful person. And more, not only a person, he is a divine person. He is creator, he is sustainer, he is convictor. And friend, you may not have thought of it, you say well we leave that to the church, no. these grounds were never built under god just for folk to come and have a good time. And [inaudible]. There’s always been an evangelistic note here. And the little ones meetings. And the young people’s meetings. Our aim, you can’t do anything with anyone for god until they are saved. What can you do with a corpse, were all dead in trespass of
sins. They’ve got to be made alive. They don’t need some more cosmetics. That’s not what a corpse needs; a corpse needs to be infused with life. That’s it. So if there’s any heart here, realizing my responsibility and great privilege before the lord. I want to invite you this morning hour to say nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling, other refuge have I none hangs my helpless soul on thee. Nothing good have I, where by thy grace to claim. It’s got to be first last and always. Not something god did and you helped. No when that vale was rent from the top to the bottom there wasn’t a thread left. One skeptic said to a minister, how big was that rent? How big, he said, it was big enough to let any sinner through. That’s right. Nobody hindered. Friend, if you want to enjoy the time of your life at cannon beach this week I trust you’ll stay. It costs too much to go home anyhow. You can’t get views like this and you don’t even have to make them yourself. And I wonder. My friend, trusting. Let’s study the word. Let’s thank god for what the holy spirit, for what he is, and who he is, and what he does. Father, we thank thee for these sacred grounds where Christ has been magnified, thy spirit has been exalted, thy name has been glorified through these years and will be until we see the face of our lord Jesus when he comes for us. That where he is there we may be also. Blessed these areas where there are needs, material. And even in the expression of those we get the undertone that these are not the paramount ones. Has to be prayer that these material things will be used for thy glory. Oh the way of the world is pretty clear. They use people to get things. We believers want things to help and to nurture and to build up people. They are the important ones. Bless, bless in all the activity of the day, bless in the concert how many times we’ve been refreshed as I able servants have come both vocally and instrumentally to magnify thee through music. There’s going to be a great deal of music in heaven and we thank thee for that. and now may the grace of our lord Jesus Christ wondrous grace, the love of god our father and the sweet communion and fellowship
of the blessed holy spirit, blessed be his name, be with you all who are in Christ now until our lord Jesus shall come. And forever and ever, amen. The lord bless you. You have at least 40 minutes before we eat.