



Photo by Arvin Devers

Greyfriar's Bobby

The third morning was cold and wet, and when the old man saw the faithful animal, in spite of all chastisement, still lying shivering on the grave, he took pity on him, and gave him some food. This recognition of his devotion gave "Bobby" the right to make the churchyard his home; and from that time until his own death he never spent a night away from his master's tomb.

Often in bad weather attempts were made to keep him within doors, but by dismal howls he succeeded in making it known that this interference was not agreeable to him, and he was always allowed to have his way. At almost any time during the day he could be seen in or about the churchyard, and no matter how rough the night, nothing could induce him to forsake that hallowed spot, whose identity he so faithfully preserved.

That, however, concludes the story of the life of Greyfriar's Bobby, a life which was later commemorated by the erection of the statue and fountain by Baroness Burdett Coutts. The figure was unveiled, without any ceremony, on November 15, 1873.

In 1858, a man named John Gray was buried in old Greyfriar's Churchyard. His grave levelled by the hand of time, and unmarked by any stone, became scarcely discernible; but, although no human interest seemed attached to it, the sacred spot was not wholly disregarded and forgotten.

For fourteen years the dead man's faithful dog kept constant watch and guard over the grave until his own death in 1872.

James Brown, the old curator of the burial ground, remembers Gray's funeral. The dog, a Skye terrier called "Bobby", was, he says, one of the most conspicuous of the mourners. The grave was closed in as usual, and next morning "Bobby" was found, lying on the newly-made mound.

This was an innovation which old James could not permit, for there was an order at the gate stating in the most intelligible characters that dogs were not admitted. "Bobby" was accordingly driven out; but next morning he was there again, and for the second time was discharged.

**MAN CROWNS SUCCESS,
GOD CROWNS FAITHFULNESS**

"Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." 1 Corinthians 4:2

**Shamgar had an ox-goad,
David had a sling,
Dorcas had a needle,
Rahab had some string,
Samson had a jawbone,
Moses had a rod,
Mary had some ointment
but they all were used of God.**

...anon

