

GREAT SINNERS NEED A GREAT SAVIOR

Mark 14:26-31

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: No doubt every person sins to some degree and some sin is horrible, in dreadful ways. However in God's eyes, all sin is horrible and hated, no matter what degree any person might put on his/her sin. What everyone needs to know and remember is that as great as sin is in the eyes of God, somebody greater than anyone's sin is needed to get people out of the mess they are in. God's provision of that great person, that great Savior, is Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ is a great Savior for great sinners.

I. JESUS CHRIST IS A GREAT SAVIOR

1. The People He Saves.

- Jesus knew exactly what He was getting when He saved and continues to save sinners.
 - Jesus' knowledge of what poor disciples His disciples would be, yet He still chose them.
 - Jesus loves all sinners though He knows that not all sinners will chose to love Him back.
 - Jesus loves sinners even though He knows that their "love" for Him will be partial at times.
 - Jesus loves sinners, as He did His disciples, knowing beforehand what sin they will get into.
- With such a loving Savior, those who are saved should be like Him in being charitable, forbearing and gracious with each other.
 - Ephesians 4:32; 5:1; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

2. The Punishment He Suffered.

- Mark 14:27; Zechariah 13:7-9
- In order to redeem and save sinful people, Jesus assumed the same nature of people, bore the sins of people in His own body, on a cross, voluntarily suffering all the fulness of God's holy wrath to the full satisfaction of God's justice as people's Substitute.
- Matthew 26:31, 56

3. The Perseverance of His Love.

- Jesus does not cast off or forsake believers in Him because of their faults, failures and sins. Jesus knows what people are.
- Jesus takes believers as a man takes a woman for his wife to be his forever and never thinks of putting her away because he later finds a fault in her. Jesus takes the believer, knowing his/her deformity to be His forever.
- Jesus will never leave nor forsake those who believe in Him.

II. UNBELIEF ROBBS THE BELIEVER

1. Jesus told His disciples very clearly about His death and resurrection. (Mark 14:28)

- All that Jesus told them seemed to pass over their heads for none of them remembered what He said.
 - They all forsook Him and left Him to die alone, except for one disciple, John.
 - When Jesus was raised from the dead, none believed it even though they were told by one of Jesus' women followers. None were quick to believe, none remembered.

2. Only when the believer is in heaven will he/she know how much he/she robbed him/herself by unbelief.

- Unbelief robs God of His glory, the believer of peace, joy and contentment.
- Hagar, in the wilderness, didn't see the well God had provided because she didn't believe.
- What anxiety, tears, misgivings and sorrows could be avoided by one simply believing God.

3. What the disciples did in forgetting, not remembering the words of Jesus, so believers do today.

III. WHAT GREAT SINNERS EVEN BELIEVERS ARE

1. Mark 14:29-31

2. Every person has great pride and that must be put down, self-confidence torn down and self-righteousness must be conquered.

- Peter didn't think that he would ever forsake the Lord and was highly offended that Jesus told him that he would. All the other disciples quickly agreed with Peter that they would never leave nor desert Him.

- Peter did eventually die for the Lord Jesus.

- Peter and the others didn't know the great evil still within and that had to be exposed and dealt with, as so with all believers.

3. Even with such pride, self-confidence and self-righteousness, God still shows the sinner goodness, grace and His providence.

- Had Peter not been afraid before the maid at the fire that night and denied ever knowing Jesus, he could never have preached so boldly as he did after Jesus' ascension.

- Had Peter and the other disciples not forsaken the Lord Jesus, they could never have know the goodness, grace, love and faithfulness of God and of Jesus.

- God revealed His continuous love, grace and favor to weak, sinful believers in His willingness as He showed to the weak, sinful disciples.

CONCLUSION:

1. There is no sin into which the most strong believer cannot get into except that God hold him/her by His grace.

2. Proverbs 16:18; 28:26; 1 Corinthians 10:12-13

3. Salvation is by Grace alone.

4. Every person is a great sinner and every person needs a great Savior and that great Savior is Jesus Christ.

5. *"...By the grace of God, I am what I am..." (1 Corinthians 15:10)*