

TWO DIFFERENT LOST SINNERS AND ONE GREAT SAVIOR

John 3:1-3; 4:4-7

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: No doubt every person is different from anybody else but concerning salvation, there is no difference in the eyes of the Lord God. In the gospel of John there are two such people described who were both saved by the wonderful, free grace of God through belief in Jesus Christ, that being Nicodemus and a woman at the well of Sychar. Nobody is beyond the reach of God's saving grace. Nicodemus shows that none can rise too high and the Samaritan woman shows that none can sink too low to be saved by God's grace. All are saved in the same way and that is by Grace, through Righteousness, by God's call through the revealing of the Lord Jesus Christ. No two people experience God's grace in exactly the same way but God's grace is extended equally to all who believe.

I. THERE IS A GREAT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PEOPLE

1. Two very different people, chosen, redeemed and called by God's grace:
 - Nicodemus, a respected, important, recognized man of rank and reputation, a ruler of the Jews.
 - The woman at the well was unnamed, insignificant, a nobody.
 - Nicodemus was a proud Jew, the woman was a despised Samaritan.
 - Nicodemus was wealthy, well educated, the woman was poor and uneducated.
 - Nicodemus was of course a man, and the Samaritan was of course a woman.
 - Nicodemus was known and respected for being a moral man, the woman was an adulteress.
 - Nicodemus came to see Jesus at night, so nobody would see him, the woman came to the well at a time when nobody would see her.
 - Nicodemus came looking for Jesus, Jesus came to Samaria looking for the woman.
 - The Samaritan woman was saved immediately upon hearing what Jesus had to say, but Nicodemus was saved a good while after he met with Jesus.
 - Two people very diverse and unlike, separated in many ways, yet Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman were saved after meeting Jesus.
 - Only God's Grace can do that. There are no social divisions with God and His Grace.
 - *Colossians 3:11; Ephesians 2:12-22*

II. EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE IS DIFFERENT, THERE IS A GREAT SAMENESS

1. Although very different in many ways, Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman had much in common.
 - They both were self-righteous.
 - Both thought they were right spiritually before God.
 - Their consciences were uneasy.
 - They both hid behind lies and self-made refuges.
 - *Isaiah 28:14-20*
 - They both were spiritually blind.
 - Neither Nicodemus or the woman had any real spiritual understanding.
 - *1 Corinthians 2:14*
 - They both were in a state of rebellion.
 - When Nicodemus couldn't understand things, he would make fun and ridicule.
 - "How can a man be born when he is old?"..etc. (*John 3:4*)
 - When the woman was told by Jesus about "living water" she reminded Him where that well had come from.
 - *John 4:11-12*

- When unbelievers are stubborn and rebel and end up in hell, it will be because they have broken God's law, rejected God's gospel and calling and refused to bow to God's Son.
- They both were empty inside.
 - Nicodemus and the woman both tried to cover up the emptiness in their souls with excuses and pretending that all was alright.

III. THERE IS A GREAT SAVIOR

1. Jesus did not deal with Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman the same way exactly.
 - Jesus destroyed their hiding behind their lies and falseness.
 - Jesus exposed their rebellion, unbelief and sin.
 - Jesus made Himself known to each of them.
 - Jesus met them at their point of rebellion and showed them their need.
 - Jesus overcame all their short comings by His Grace.
2. What Jesus did for Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman shows that there is NOBODY that God's Grace cannot be given to and that there is NOBODY whom the Lord Jesus will turn away.

CONCLUSION:

1. Every body is different from everybody else in countless ways, no two people are exactly alike.
2. Everybody is exactly the same in their spiritual needs which can be met by God's Grace and the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. God does not deal with everybody in the same exact manner yet there is but ONE savior, ONE way to receive God's GRACE and that is the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. Everybody who is a Christian became a Christian in exactly the same way - belief in Jesus Christ.