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# "I'M A GREAT SINNER WITH A GREATER SAVIOR"

PSALM 14



Towards the end of his life, John Newton, author of *Amazing Grace*, said, "Although my memory's fading, I remember two things very clearly: I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior." If I was allowed to choose two memories that would never fade even if aging and dementia took everything else away, these are the two things I would choose: "I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior." But even apart from dementia, it's easy to let these two great truths fade into forgetfulness. That's why it's important to remind ourselves of these two facts every day of our lives: "**I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior.**" Psalm 14 helps us do just that.

## LEARNING

### I AM A GREAT SINNER (1-5)

We are foolish: **The fool says in his heart, "There is no God"** (1a). We are foul: **They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good** (1b). We are far away: **The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all turned aside** (2-3a). We are filthy: **Together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one** (3b). We are forgetful: **"Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers** (4a). We are fierce: **All the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the Lord** (4b). We are fearful: **There they are in great terror for God is with the generation of the righteous** (5).

Some of us can read these verses as our own biographies. Others of us, though, might read these verses and say, "Well, I was never like that." That may be true. But, apart from God's preserving grace, we would have been just like that. So, we can still pray these words as a true confession of what we would have been like if God had not graciously protected us from ourselves until he saved us by himself and to himself.

NO SIN IS BEYOND US,  
BECAUSE EVERY SIN IS IN US.

If I am such a great sinner, I need a greater Savior.

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## CHRIST IS A GREAT SAVIOR (6-7)

Despite verses 1-5 being true of all of us, yet, Christ is still willing and able to save us. Look at what can be true of even the worst sinner. **God is with the generation of the righteous** (5). **The Lord is his refuge** (6). No wonder David prays, "**Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad**" (7).

Christ saves us from our folly, our foul-ness, our far-awayness, our filth, our forgetfulness, our ferocity, and our fears. How? By faith. He gives us faith to trust his great saving work on the cross.

NO SINNER IS BEYOND CHRIST,  
BECAUSE NO SIN IS BIGGER THAN CHRIST.

LOVING

Yes, I am a great sinner, but Christ is a great Savior, a greater Savior, the greatest Savior. Knowing how true verses 1-5 were, yet he still came to this earth to do verses 6-7. Knowing what we were, he came to live among such as we are, die for such as we are, and save such as we are. What a great savior for great sinners.

LIVING

Always remember that the greatest sinners can be saved by the greatest Savior.

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