



I'm the Worst

By Taylor Braswell on June 17, 2024

TODAY'S READING: 1 Timothy 1

You are a wicked sinner who desperately needs God's grace and mercy in your daily life. I know you may need some encouragement today from the devotion, but I love you, so I am going to tell you the truth. In order to truly understand how amazing your salvation was, you must first realize how great a sinner you are. It is so easy to play the comparison game and look around to see who is sinning more than us. If we are not careful, we can even think we brought something to the table when it comes to our salvation. Church, if your testimony begins in the first person, you have started in the wrong place. "I prayed" or "I believed" is not why we are saved. We are saved because GOD chose to change our affections so that we could even see Him as desirable. Your natural state, apart from Christ, is a fists-clinched, cold-hearted rejection of God. We are all born rejecting God (Ephesians 2:3), and salvation is so miraculous because God regenerates us (Titus 3:5). The Bible teaches that we are dead in our sins, and it is God who makes us alive (Ephesians 2:4-5).

It is in this context that Paul makes this statement in 1 Timothy 1:15, "Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost." Paul has already acknowledged in verse 14 that his salvation was all mercy from God, and now he is declaring that he is the worst sinner! Paul goes on to say that God is using his life as an example to others. If God can save someone like Paul who was once putting Christians to death, He can save anyone. Church, obviously people have committed worse sins than you, but you should view your own sin as the worst, as it has offended a perfect and holy God. As you grow in Christ, you become increasingly disgusted with your sin, and you hate it! When you are aware of how sinful you are, you will judge others less often because you know that apart from Christ, you are the same as them.

PRAYER: Father, thank You for saving a wretch like me. I know I do not deserve Your grace and mercy. Use my life as an example to others and make me more aware of my sin. Give me a hatred for sin and a love for others today.

TOMORROW'S READING: 1 Timothy 2

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