# Good People Do Not Go to Heaven

**"For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost." Luke 19:10**

When talking about the Bible with a man, he commented that he thought he was a good person. I asked, "If we were able to take your thought life over the past two weeks and film it in vivid detail, after which we showed it to your family and friends, what would you do?" He answered, "I would have to leave town." All a man has to do is think about what he thinks about to realize that he has a problem with sin.

Scripture assumes that sin is a universal problem. As the Apostle Paul said, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God."[1] An awareness of your depravity is essential for:

1 - The ability to participate in sanctification. How can you change if you see no need for change? The pursuit of holiness assumes that you need to be holy.

2 - The ability to be empathetic. How can you understand depravity in another's life if you fail to see that you are depraved? I believe it was Goethe who said, "With the slightest change in my character, there is not a crime I am incapable of committing." All people, when seeing sin in the lives of others should say, "There go I but by the grace of God."

3 - A sense of dependence on God. Good people have no need for God. As the hymn writer put it, "'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed."[2] It was God's grace that taught your heart to fear Him, resulting in conversion.

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[1] Romans 3:23  [2] "Amazing Grace" by John Newton