

# Will All Good People Be Saved?

Sermon by Andy Sochor

Text: Romans 3:9-12, 23

Many believe that all “good” people will be saved. Yet just because someone is “good” does not mean that he/she will be saved. In our lesson, we are going to look at a few examples of “good” people who still needed to be saved. Then we will notice the reason WHY simply being “good” by itself will not save anyone.

## Examples of Good People Who Were Not Saved

- Cornelius (Acts 10:1-2) – he was a good person; was told to send for Peter to hear a message from him (Acts 10:5, 22); Peter recognized that God is willing to welcome anyone (Acts 10:34-35); Cornelius needed to believe and be baptized (Acts 10:43, 48)
- Lydia (Acts 16:13-15) – she was a worshiper of God; yet she needed to hear the gospel taught by Paul (Acts 16:14); she was then baptized (Acts 16:15)
- Apollos (Acts 18:24-28) – he was knowledgeable of God’s word; yet he needed Priscilla and Aquila to explain to him “the way of God more accurately” (Acts 18:26); he needed to be baptized in the name of Christ (Acts 18:25; 19:3-5)
- Paul (Acts 23:1) – he had a good conscience; this was despite the fact that he persecuted the church (Acts 22:3-6); the Lord appeared to him and said he would be told what to do in Damascus (Acts 22:6-10); Ananias told him to be baptized to wash away his sins (Acts 22:16)

## Why Simply Being “Good” Will Not Save Anyone

- We are using a human standard when we identify anyone as “good” (Luke 18:19) – the standard of judgment is not what WE think; we will be judged by Jesus’ words (John 12:48)
- No one is “good” because we have all sinned (Romans 3:9-12, 23) – the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23); we are “shut up...under sin” (Galatians 3:22) and have no hope
- Even if one is a good person, worships God, knows the Bible, and has a good conscience, he/she still needs to be forgiven of sins
- Salvation is only found IN Christ (Acts 4:12) – forgiveness is only IN Him (Ephesians 1:3-4, 7) – one gets IN Christ through baptism (Galatians 3:26-27; Romans 6:3-4)
- From the day of Pentecost, believers were told to be baptized to be forgiven (Acts 2:37-38) – this was in accordance with the Commission given by Jesus (Mark 16:15-16); this is what the converts did in our examples; it is also what “good” people must do today

## **Conclusion**

- Jesus died on the cross so that anyone could be saved – yet merely being a “good” person is not enough
- All have sinned (Romans 3:23) – because of our sin, we deserve death (Romans 6:23)
- Forgiveness is found in Christ (Ephesians 1:7) – yet to be in Christ, we must believe and be baptized (Galatians 3:26-27)