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**Better and Worse  
than I Knew**  
Psalm 36



[ref.ly/Ps36;niv](https://ref.ly/Ps36;niv)

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## Psalm 36

<sup>1</sup> I have a message from God in my heart concerning the sinfulness of **the wicked**;

There is no fear of God before their eyes. **we** **ourselves**

<sup>2</sup> In their own eyes ~~they~~ flatter ~~themselves~~ too much to detect or hate ~~their~~ **sin**.

<sup>3</sup> The words of their mouths are **our** wicked and deceitful; they fail to act wisely or do good.

<sup>4</sup> Even **on their beds they plot evil**; they commit themselves to a sinful course and do not reject what is wrong.

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<sup>5</sup> **Your love** LORD, reaches to the heavens, **your faithfulness** to the skies.

<sup>6</sup> **Your righteousness** is like the highest mountains, **your justice** like the great deep.

You, LORD, preserve both people and animals.

<sup>7</sup> How priceless is your unfailing love, O God!

People take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

<sup>8</sup> They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights.

<sup>9</sup> For with you is the fountain of life;

**in your light we see light**

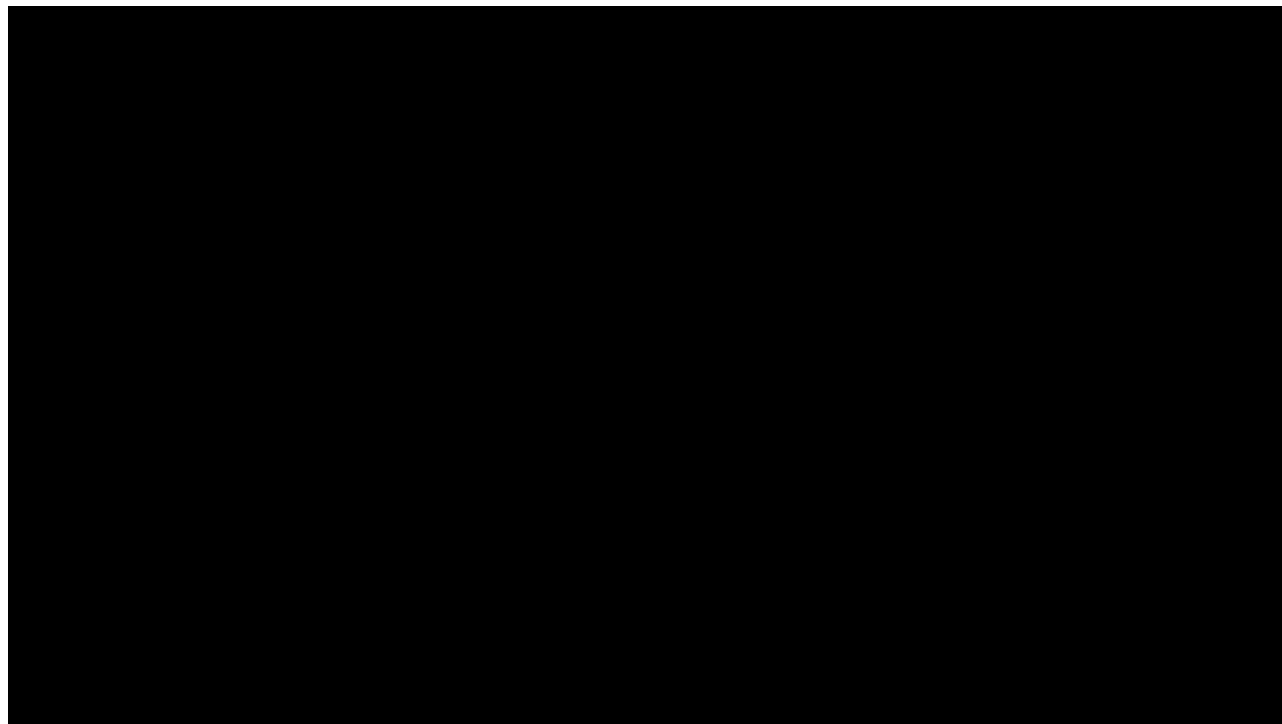
**Contrast the way of the wicked with the love of God**

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- <sup>10</sup> Continue your love to those who know you,  
your righteousness to the upright in heart.
- <sup>11</sup> May the foot of the proud not come against me,  
nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.
- <sup>12</sup> See how the evildoers lie fallen—  
thrown down, not able to rise!

Crying out for the love of God  
for those who enter the light of His presence

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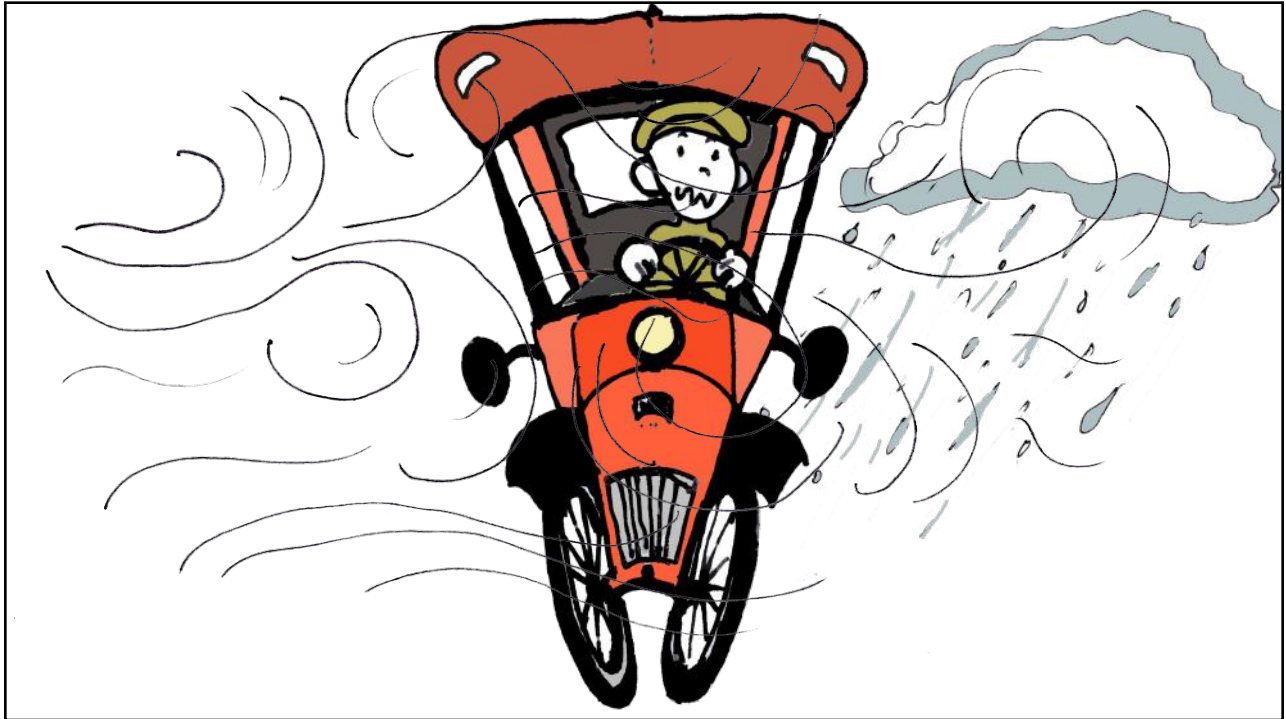


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## The Big Idea

Truly living requires  
**knowing** our deep sinfulness  
AND  
**knowing** God's great love in Christ

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10

If we don't KNOW  
**our sinfulness**, and  
**God's great love**,  
we won't be stable



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Knowing our  
sinfulness

Knowing  
God's love

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## The Big Idea

Truly living requires  
**knowing** our deep sinfulness  
AND  
**knowing** God's great love in Christ

**Having neither or both  
leaves us unstable or worse**

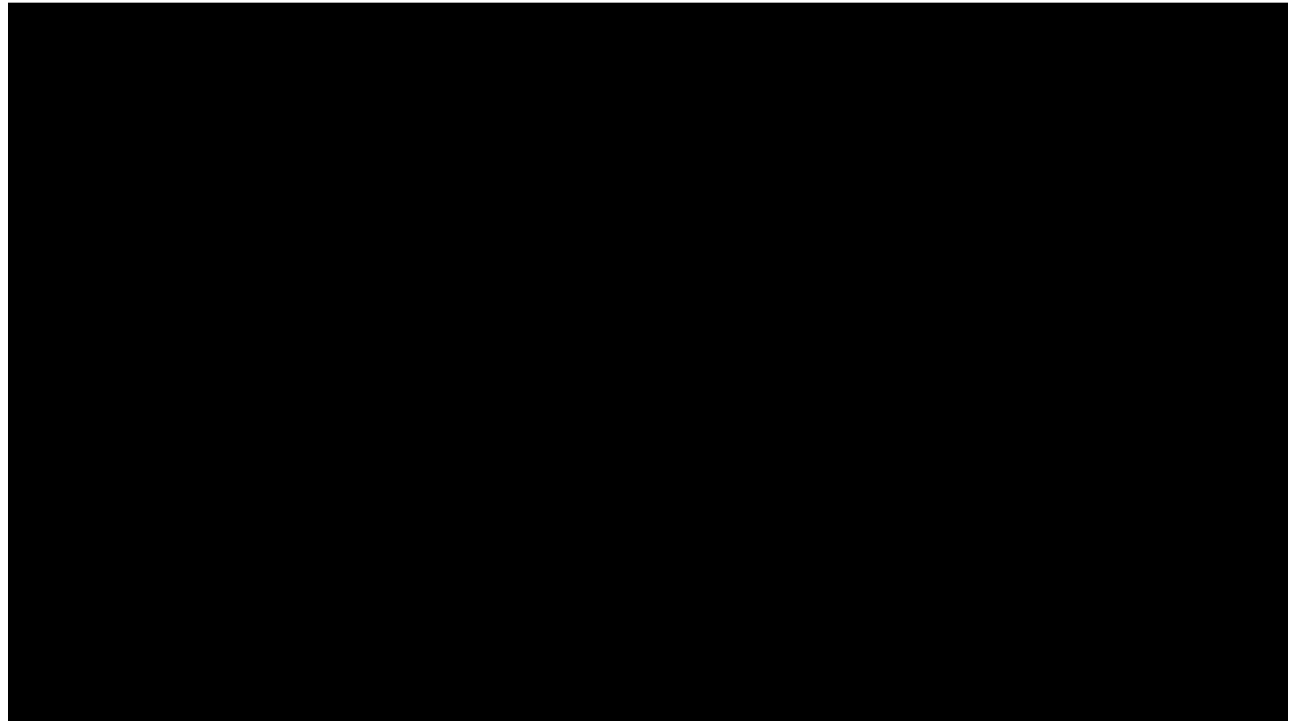
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## John Newton

At the end of his life, he said:

“Although my memory's fading,  
I remember two things very clearly:  
**I am a great sinner and  
Christ is a great Savior.”**

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## **Action Item #1**

**Grow a deep awareness that **I** am sinful**

- Giving in to temptation
- The **disordered desires deep within me** that make these things tempting to me

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## Action Item #1

**Grow a deep awareness that I am sinful**

- "In my own eyes I flatter myself too much to **detect or hate** my sin."
- "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. **See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.**"

Psalm 139:23-24

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## Action Item #2

**Be astounded by God's love**

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## Lent

March 5 (Wednesday) for 40+ days until Easter

**Advent** prepares us to celebrate **Christmas**

**Lent** prepares us to celebrate **Good Friday** and **Easter**

Intentionally spend time in the light of God's presence

- **know my sin** that necessitated Good Friday
- **know the glorious love of God** that brought Easter

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## Lent

<https://www.crosswaymchurch.org/lent/>

- **Remove things** from life (once, multiple, whole time)
- **Add things** to life (once, multiple, whole time)
  - 5 minutes, 15 minutes, 30 minutes, an hour, longer
  - "Spiritual" and other activities
- **Together**

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## Do you *\*love\** Easter?

“Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown.

**But whoever has been forgiven little loves little.”**

Luke 7:47

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“Although my memory's fading,  
I remember two things very clearly:

**I am a great sinner and  
Christ is a great Savior.”**

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