



Daily Devotion



"And (the jailer) brought them out and said, 'Sirs, what must I do to be saved?' And they said, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved.'" Acts 16:30-31

A godly man feels sin more than grace, wrath more than favor, judgment more than redemption. An ungodly man feels almost no wrath, but is smug as though there were no wrath anywhere...Therefore though (the godly) have the forgiveness of sins, they still pray and sigh for the forgiveness of sins. On the other hand, smug sinners say, "I thank Thee that I am not like other men." (Luke 18:11) Martin Luther

There are two kinds of sinners--secure and alarmed. God rejects the secure sinner, for he is secure not in the promises and righteousness of Christ, but in himself, satisfied that he has gained the favor of God by his own behavior in life. God, however, desires to rescue the alarmed sinner, as He did through Paul and Silas when they brought the good news of Jesus to the jailer who was about to take his own life. Secure sinners have no need of God's forgiveness. Alarmed sinners can never have too much of God's mercy. Recognizing the truth that they are poor, miserable sinners, they hunger and thirst for Christ. You cannot keep an alarmed sinner away from God's house of mercy and from the Communion Table, not after he has tasted the sweetness of the Gospel.

Dear Father, let me always be an alarmed sinner so that I do not become smug and secure in myself. And give me always the forgiveness of my sins in the Gospel of Jesus. Amen.