

*“Save me, O God; for the waters are come in unto my soul. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary of my crying: my throat is dried: mine eyes fail while I wait for my God. They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away. O God, Thou knowest my foolishness; and my sins are not hid from Thee.” *Psalms 69:1-5 KJV**



You can fool anyone into believing you are saved and heaven bound. I know I did it all my life. The worst deception of all was that I fooled myself. I shudder to think of the times I nearly died! When I was nine, I was pushed into deep water at summer camp, and not knowing how to swim, I sank. My last memory was of looking up at the light at the surface of the water and then, blackness. I came to, with a man sitting on me, pushing down hard on my chest, and my first reaction was, “fight!” As I struggled to throw him off, I heard cheers from bystanders. They tell me I was missing for ten minutes. I don’t know. Time stopped for me! My eternity had almost begun! I never doubted my salvation until the night I got saved! I had even preached sermons and led others to Christ! I was alone at my desk, it was about 2 am, and I immediately woke my wife to share the good news! She looked at me through sleepy eyes, thought for a moment, and replied, “You’re nuts! Go to bed!” Even she was fooled, because I had believed a lie, but my sins were not hid from God! The Holy Spirit not only preserved me through many dangers, but also convinced me of my need. *“The goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance.”* You see, I believed the Bible, in God, but I had never sincerely called out to God! Raised in church, son of Baptist Missionaries, walked an aisle, prayed a prayer, baptized, and even my parents were fooled! God knew better! There’s a difference between THINKING and KNOWING you are saved! Are you in that self-deceiving place? The biggest fool is one who believes their own lie! *“Let no man DECEIVE HIMSELF....For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God...He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.”* Telling yourself, “I’m OK!” when you’re not sure is just stupid! Get a Bible (KJV), read John’s Gospel, and ask God to show you Truth! *“Ye shall know the Truth and the Truth shall make you free!”* Jesus said, *“I am the Truth.”* Do you know *“the Truth?”* Death is imminent for every man! We don’t like to think about it, but it’s all around us. When is your number up?

The mire of sin engulfs the man,
Who lives outside God’s only plan,
Deceived by self, a fool’s own quest,
Forever lost to Heaven’s rest! ~CGP

“It is appointed unto man once to die (no return), and after this, the Judgment!” Are you ready to meet God? Do you know Him? Have you ignored the voice of parents, Christian friends, and God’s Word as they spoke the Truth to you? Death is never expected, especially your own! There’s still time, if you’re breathing! Don’t fool yourself!

“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.” 2 Peter 3:9-10 KJV