

## Three Swimmers

Let us suppose that a plane crashes into the water with three men aboard, and there is no boat, ship, or land within hundreds of miles. One of the men is able to swim only a few hundred feet. The second can manage to stay afloat an hour or two. The third is a world champion long-distance swimmer. What is the fate of the three?

It does not matter if the third is a great swimmer or not. He is in the same fate as the other two. The first will drown in twenty minutes; the second in an hour or two; and the third in twenty hours. All three need a savior, for without one, they will drown.

The same is true when we speak of man's spiritual needs. Isaiah 64:6 says, *"But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; we all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."* Being a good moral person alone amounts to nothing more than filthy rags. If anyone could have been saved by simply being a good, moral person, it should have been Cornelius. He was *"a devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway ... a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews"* (Acts 10:2, 22). However, in Acts 11:14, the angel said to Cornelius, *"Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved."* If goodness could have saved him, then why did he need Peter to preach words which would save him? The fact is that we all are sinners, and without a Savior we are doomed to destruction. The answer is found in the gospel. Are you saved? If you are not sure, contact us for a free Bible study.

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