

*But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. Acts 9:1–5 (ESV)*

*But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. Acts 9:15 (ESV)*

*For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion." So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. Romans 9:15–16 (ESV)*

## **Jesus came to save fools.**

*Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad. Psalm 14:7 (ESV)*

*"And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression," declares the Lord. Isaiah 59:20 (ESV)*

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you: righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)*

1. If you know God, don't be a fool and live like a practical atheist.
2. This Psalm helps us understand why atheists can't see God.
3. This Psalm calls fools to turn to Christ today.

Want To Learn More? This handout, small group questions, sermon manuscripts, audio and video are available at [www.christ2Rculture.com](http://www.christ2Rculture.com). You can also find sermon video and audio on iTunes by searching for "Kurt Trucksess"

Next Week: John Gerhart Speaking  
Two Weeks: Thanksgiving service



## *God Came to Save Fools*

*Christmas*  
FROM THE  
BOOK OF *Psalms*

DR. KURT TRUCKSESS

## PSALM 14

## Faith Church - EFCA

November 13, 2011

### Psalm 14 - God Came to Save Fools

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Opening illustration from - <http://www.christianpost.com/news/atheists-form-support-group-for-nonbelieving-pastors-58252/>

#### The fool says there is no God.

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."... Psalm 14:1 (ESV)

#### Intellectual atheists are fools.

*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools,... Romans 1:18–23 (ESV)*

#### Practical atheists are fools.

#### God says everyone is a fool.

*...They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good. The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all turned*

*aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. Psalm 14:1–3 (ESV)*

*What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." Romans 3:9–12 (ESV)*

*"Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive." "The venom of asps is under their lips." "Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness." "Their feet are swift to shed blood; in their paths are ruin and misery, and the way of peace they have not known." "There is no fear of God before their eyes." Romans 3:13–18 (ESV)*

1) We are alienated from God.

2) We can not turn to God.

#### I am so dead in sin, I can NOT turn to God.

#### The book of John shows us why we came to Jesus.

*No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. John 6:44 (ESV)*

*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all... John 6:63 (ESV)*

#### The Emmaus Road shows us how we recognize Jesus.

*But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. Luke 24:16 (ESV)*

*When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. Luke 24:30–31 (ESV)*

#### The Damascus Road shows us how salvation begins.