

Pharisee and Publican Prayers
(Pharisee Hypocritical, False Prayer; Publican Heart Felt, Humble Prayer of Faith)
Luke 18:9-14 (KJV)
September 25, 2021

⁹ And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: ¹⁰ Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. ¹² I fast twice in the week; I give tithes of all that I possess. ¹³ And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me the sinner. ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Luke 18:9-14

Introduction (Luke 18:9)

There are two religions in the world.

The word "trusted": to be confident or convinced they have brownie points with God.

God cannot be bribed or manipulated.

The Pharisee did not really go to pray; he went to inform God how good he was.

Isaiah 65:5 – Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou...

Job 9:20 – If I justify myself, mine own mouth shall condemn me: if I say, I am perfect, it shall also prove me perverse.

Proverbs 16:2 – All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.

Proverbs 20:6 – Most men will proclaim everyone his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?

Proverbs 21:2 – Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the Lord pondereth the hearts.

Proverbs 30:12 – There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness

¹⁰ As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. ¹² They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one."

Romans 3:10-12 (NKJV)

The wages of sin is death.

Our responsibility is to lift up the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word "**despised**" is an intense word for hate.

Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. **1 John 3:15**

Jesus repeatedly pointed out two things: the necessity of choosing whether to follow God or not.

I. THE PHARISEE IN THE PARABLE (Luke 18:10-12)

UNJUST

But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free. And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother; (**Mark 7:11-12**) breaking another of the ten Commandments.

Corban was a lawyer's trick.

ADULTERER

²⁷ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. **Matthew 5:27-28**

Not to mention the unjust act of stoning a woman caught in adultery and allowing the Pharisee to live.

ADDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

¹² I fast twice in the week; I give tithes of all that I possess.

Luke 18:12

You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you. **Deuteronomy 4:2**

I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; **Revelation 22:18**

Making the Word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye. **Mark 7:13**

- **Man justifies only the innocent,**
- **But God only the guilty.**
- **Man justifies on the basis of self-merit,**
- **But God on the basis of the savior's merit. ~ Harold Wilmington**

II. THE PUBLICAN IN THE PARABLE (Luke 18:10-13)

This word "merciful" means **to make propitiation or reconciliation.**"

Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. **Hebrews 2:17**

And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. **1 John 2:2**

"GOD BE MERCIFUL!" TO ME **THE SINNER.**

III. THE PROCLAMATION AFTER THE PARABLE (Luke 18:14)

Justification of the sinner by faith is the theme of this parable. ~ John Butler

... Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; ⁶ Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior; ⁷ That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. **Titus 3:5-7**

The ground is level at the foot of the Cross for all humble sinners.

But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. **James 4:6**

The results of justification:

1. The remission of sin's penalty (Acts 13:38, 39; Rom. 4:7; 6:23; 8:1, 33, 34; 2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 1:7; 4:32; Col. 2:13).
2. The restoration to divine favor (Rom. 5:1-11).
3. The imputation of Christ's righteousness (Mt. 22:11; Lk. 15:22-24; Rom. 4:11; 1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Cor. 5:21).

Truths about Justification:

1. Justification takes place the moment you are saved. It is an immediate act. It never changes.
2. Justification is what God did for us. He declares us righteous.
3. Justification removes the guilt and penalty of sin.
4. Justification makes us safe. We are saved from Hell.
5. Justification deals with our standing before God. How God views us.

Conclusion