

THE GRACE OF GOD – PART IV
“Self-Righteousness - A Grace Killer”
Luke 18:9-16

In today's teaching, we learn what kind of heart is acceptable to God and keeps the outpouring of His grace in perpetual motion. Two men, who were polar-opposites, each offered a prayer to God, with completely different hearts. God accepted one and rejected the other. Of interest was the fact that the Pharisee, a religious person, was rejected and it was a repulsive tax collector who was accepted! How could this be?

#1. LUKE 18 – DIFFERENT WAYS OF APPROACHING GOD

- A. Persistent prayer – the Widow, vv. 1-8
- B. The Pharisee and the tax-collector, vv. 9-14
- C. Little children – the Kingdom belongs to them, vv. 15-17
- D. The rich man – give away all your possessions, vv. 18-30
- E. The blind man – have mercy on me Jesus, vv. 35-43

#2. THE PARABLE IS ADDRESSED TO THE PHARISEES, v. 9

- A. Those who are confident in their own righteousness
- B. Those who look down on everybody else

#3. THREE TYPES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS MENTIONED IN SCRIPTURE

- A. Imputed righteousness, Ro 3:20-23, 4:5, 2 Cor 5:21
- B. Behavioral righteousness, Eph 5:8-10, 1 Tim 6:11
- C. Self-righteousness, Isa 64:6

#4. AN ANALYSIS OF THE PHARISEE'S PRAYER, vv. 11-12

- A. He stood up, v. 11
- B. He prayed about himself, v. 11
 - 1. I thank you that I'm not like other men
 - 2. I'm not like robbers
 - 3. I'm not like evildoers
 - 4. I'm not like adulterers
 - 5. I'm not like this tax collector
- C. I fast twice a week, v. 12
- D. I give a tenth of all I get, v. 12

#5. AN ANALYSIS OF THE TAX COLLECTOR'S PRAYER, v. 13

- A. He stood at a distance
- B. He wouldn't look up to heaven
- C. He beat his breast
- D. He pleaded for mercy
- E. He identified himself as a sinner

#6. THE PHARISEE'S SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS MADE GOD'S GRACE UNNECESSARY, v. 14

- A. The tax collector was declared righteous by God
- B. The tax collector was humble & God exalted him
- C. The Pharisee was rejected by God
- D. The Pharisee exalted himself & God humbled him
- E. His humble heart opened the pathway to God's grace, 1 Pet 5:6, James 4:6

NOTES:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- #1. What is the connection between this passage and the previous episode?
- #2. Why did the Pharisees tend to be self-righteous?
- #3. Discuss each of three types of righteousness mentioned in Scripture:
 - A. Imputed righteousness
 - B. Behavioral righteousness
 - C. Self-righteousness
- #4. What are your observations about the Pharisee's prayer?
- #5. Read 1 Corinthians 1:28-31 and discuss how the Pharisee's prayer contradicts this passage.
- #6. In what way(s) did the Pharisee's prayer reflect his prideful arrogance?
- #7. What are your conclusions about the tax-collector's prayer?
- #8. Discuss how 1 Peter 5:6 and James 4:6 apply to the Pharisee and the tax-collector.
- #9. How do we keep the outpouring of grace continuous in our lives, such that we live in grace?
- #10. What qualities are found in children that adults should emulate in their approach to God?
- #11. What is your takeaway from this teaching?

Welcome To Hillcrest Church!

GIVING GOD OUR BEST – 2021!

*Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive
the kingdom of God like a little child
will never enter it."*

Luke 18:17

*September 5, 2021
Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNION THIS MORNING

Be sure to get your prepackaged communion cup in back of the sanctuary. Aaron will be leading us in the celebration of the Lord's table.

JOIN US ONLINE FOR

Tuesday Bible study at 6:30, Wednesday study & Prayer at 6:30. Click the "online meeting room" link on the home page of the website Hillcrestroseville.com

FACILITY

The transformation of our fellowship area continues. Special thanks to Robert Kraft for his help.

YOGA FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Pastor Bruce is a certified Yoga instructor and will be offering a class every Saturday at 10:00 and another class during the week. Time to be announced

THE EAST INDIAN DINNER

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this special fund raising event for missions. The total amount raised will be announced in today's service.

HELP WITH MEDIA

If you would like to help with the sound system and/or media please let Aaron, Johanna, or DJ know and we can train you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there. Thank you for supporting the gospel ministry of Hillcrest Church.