

The Parables of Jesus: The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

Introduction

Key thought: __ am _____-righteous

Read (What does it say?): Luke 18:9-14 (Author = Luke)

9 Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10 "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' 13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Explain (What does it mean?)

9 Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted [second perfect (completed action with the results continuing) active participle; convinced, pacified, assented, relied, agreed, assured, believed, had confidence, were content, made friends, persuaded, trusted] **in themselves that they were righteous** [equitable, innocent, holy, just, righteous], **and despised** [present active participle; contemptible, despised, least esteemed, set at naught] **others: 10 "Two men went up to the temple** [sacred place, temple] **to pray** [pray, supplicate, worship], **one a Pharisee** [separatist, exclusively religious, Pharisee] **and the other a tax collector** [tax farmer, collector of public revenue, publican]. **11 The Pharisee stood and prayed** [imperfect middle indicative] **thus with himself, 'God, I thank** [am grateful to, express gratitude to] **You that I am not like other men** [remaining ones, others, remnant, residue]—**extortioners** [rapacious, extortion,

ravening], **unjust** [unjust, wicked, treacherous, heathen, unrighteous], **adulterers** [paramour, apostate, adulterer], **or even as this tax collector.** **12 I fast** [abstain from food religiously, fast] **twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess** [get, acquire, own, obtain; the Pharisee uses 'I' _____ times. **Who is the hero of the Pharisee's story? _____.** **Spurgeon: A fine peacock, truly! Calvin: No disease is more dangerous than arrogance.].'** **13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not** [imperfect active indicative] **so much as raise** [raise up, exalt self, poise up] **his eyes to heaven, but beat** [imperfect active indicative; thumped, pummeled by repeated blows] **his breast** [chest], **saying, 'God, be merciful** [aorist passive imperative; conciliate, atone for sin, be propitious, be merciful, make reconciliation for; only used elsewhere in **Hebrews __:__**] **to me a** ['the,' not 'a'] **sinner** [**Who is the star of the tax collector's story? _____**]!' **14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified** [perfect passive participle; rendered just, rendered innocent, free, justified, made righteous] **rather than the other; for everyone who exalts** [elevates, exalts, lifts up] **himself will be humbled** [future middle indicative; depressed, humiliated, abased, brought low, humbled], **and he who humbles himself will be exalted** [future middle indicative]."

Proverbs 3:34; James 4:6; 1 Peter 5:5; Luke 14:11

Apply (What is the point?)

1. Internal self-exaltation results in external _____
2. Internal humbling results in external _____
3. We are self-righteous

Personalize (What do we do with that?)

1. Do not exalt ourselves
2. Humble ourselves
3. _____ and _____