

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"A Prayer God Hears"
Luke 18:9-14
Study-73

Luke 18 The Disciples Call To Radical Faith

Luke 18:1-14 Luke records two parables regarding prayer that are exclusive to Luke's Gospel.

Verses 1-8 "Parable of The Persistent Widow" Tried Faith (What we think of God)

Verses 9-14 "Parable of 2 Prayers" Repentant Faith (What we think of ourselves)

Thought Of Our Passage: "Disciples Prayer Confesses One's Sin And Seeks God's Forgiveness, Not Prayer That Exalts Self And Excludes Others"

- 1. Verse 9 The Setting**
- 2. Verses 10-13 The Parable**
- 3. Verse 14 The Declaration**

1. Verse 9 The Setting:

Luke 18:9 And He also (Context) Jesus had been teaching on prayer **Jesus spoken of prayer in difficult times** (Tried Faith) **Luke 18:1 ought to pray and not to lose heart,**

That God longed for true faith when He returned. **Luke 18:8**

Jesus continues with the subject of faith but deals with a different matter in Faith/Prayer. **(Humility and trust, our faith is to be in God not in ourselves)**

told this parable A parable is an illustration. Always told alongside of His teaching.

to some people There were some "Hang-Arounds" not converted but were listening.

James 1:21 in humility receive the word implanted,

Purpose Of This Parable – To Reach Those That Had Faith In Self: who trusted in themselves "A trust that never wanes" or "confidence based on themselves" (Feeling good about oneself)

that they were righteous, "worth, a worth before God. A sense of acceptance before God, right standing before God" **Job 25:4**

**Only means to be made right before God is Faith in Him:
Genesis 15:6**

Justification – "Is the act of God whereby God declares the believing sinner righteous in Christ on the basis of the finished work of Christ on the cross."

"The key to righteousness is humility expressing itself in repentance towards God and casting oneself solely upon the mercy of God"

Purpose Of This Parable – To Reach Those Who Had Contempt For Others: and viewed others with contempt: "utterly despised the rest"

2. Verses 10-13 The Parable:

Luke 18:10 "Two men went up into the temple to pray,
prayer 9:00AM; 3:00PM

"Prayer is not merely that which comes out of our mouth, but out of our heart"

one a Pharisee, "Separate Ones, to separate" (**Good Guy, Out-Word Righteousness**)

Letter versus spirit! yet their system of religion was a form and nothing more.

and the other a tax-gatherer. (Bad Guy, Out-Word Un-Righteousness) These were Jews that collected money for Rome. They were known crooks.

Verses 11-12 The Pharisees' Prayer: "The Pharisee stood This is the posture even to this day at the Wailing Wall. The men stand in one area and the women in another.

praying this to himself, "The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself" literally "to himself" (**Not a prayer at all, prayer is asking, he congratulates himself, God does not hear because the Pharisee is not speaking to God**) **Romans 10:13**

'God, I (5 personal Pronouns) **thank You** It sounds good like it is going to be a psalm of praise. Start prayer with thanks!

No thanks for who God is but for who he was: that I am not like other people: Romans 3:10

That an understanding of ourselves as objects of mercy breeds compassion. If not, we do not really see ourselves.

I am not like other people: swindlers, extortioner, robber.

unjust, *unrighteous descriptive of one who violates or has violated justice sinful, of one who deals fraudulently with others, deceitful.*

adulterers, *one who practices premarital and extramarital sex outside of the bonds of marriage. Also, a metaphor for. one who is faithless toward God*

or even like this tax-gatherer. He possibly pointed to tax-gatherer.

We need to be separated from sin: The deeds, and acts of sin.

This man proves he does not love God because he does not love his fellow man!

Luke 18:12 'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.'

What I Do: 'I fast twice a week; *It's the humbling of ourselves, the surrendering of self, it's the denying of our flesh that our spirit might be strengthened. Instead of eating - praying*

Matthew 6:16-18

I pay tithes of all that I get. Notice again the "I" "I Pray," I fast," "I pay tithes." **Deuteronomy 14:22** they went beyond the requirement of the law **Luke 11:42**

Matthew 23:23-24

Matthew 6:1-4; Romans 10:1-4; Galatians 2:16

Luke 18:13

Verse 13 The Tax-Gatherers' Prayer: "But the tax-gatherer, standing some distance away, note he was not next to the Pharisee.

was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, (Poor In Spirit, Humility)

This is how to get right with God! It starts with humility. That we recognize that there is nothing within ourselves that would make us acceptable to God.

but was beating his breast, (outward show of sorrow)

'God, be merciful to me, the (Not a sinner) sinner!'

merciful same word used in **Hebrews 9:5 the mercy seat;**
Psalms 51:1

3. Verse 14 The Declaration:

Luke 18:14 "I tell you, notice now what God says about these men.

this man went down to his house justified *"To be declared righteous"*
Romans 3:21-23

rather than the other; Pharisee left unaccepted, unjustified, and under God's wrath.

for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, Pride and the trusting of self will result in being humbled, proven wrong. **Proverbs 11:2**

but he who humbles himself will be exalted." **"Faith that is born out of genuine repentance"** James 4:6

"Self-Exaltation brings humiliation, but humility results in exaltation"

1 John 2:1-2

Application:

1. The Key To Righteousness Is Humility Expressing Itself In Repentance Towards God And Casting Oneself Solely Upon The Mercy Of God.
2. God Wants Us To Have A Heart Like The Tax Collector, A Heart Sensitive To Sin, And Totally Dependent On God's Grace; In Humility Receiving God's Gift Of Forgiveness.
3. The Tax Collector, Found Mercy In God, Not Because He Was Humble, But Because He Was Aware Of His Sin And He Cast Himself Upon The Mercy Of God.