

2020 VISION

Luke 18:9-14 - Humbling the Self-Righteous Person

Luke 18:9-14 *To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: 10 "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people — robbers, evildoers, adulterers — or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' 13 "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' 14 "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."*

1. The pharisee **STANDS BY HIMSELF** (to avoid being defiled by those he despised) and offers prayers spoken out loud.
2. Rather than comparing himself to God's expectations **OF HIM**, he compares **HIMSELF** to others.
3. The tax-collector **STANDS AT A DISTANCE** and beats his chest where his heart is located.

Luke 23:48 *When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away.*

4. God shows **COMPASSION** and atonement to the meek and humble, while rejecting the arrogant.

Luke 18:14 *"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."*

5. Only those who sense their **UNWORTHINESS** in God's presence, can appropriately receive God's offered grace.

