


Justification for a Contrite Sinner


Luke 18:9-14

Presented by Bob DeWaay
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Overview

- This parable is about justification and attitudes
- The prayers were uttered at public prayers connected with the daily sacrifices
- The tax-gatherer asked for propitiation
- Humbly seeing our need for atonement is the appropriate attitude in prayer



One's own righteousness is not to be trusted

- **Luke 18:9**

And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt:

Public prayers at the temple

- Luke 18:10**

Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.
- Luke 1:10**

And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside at the hour of the incense offering.

The Pharisee stands aloof and “prays” a self advertisement

- Luke 18:11, 12** (ESV)

The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: “God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.”

Knowing he is unworthy, “the sinner” asks for “propitiation”

- Luke 18:13**

But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, “God, be merciful to me, the sinner!”

Justification for humble sinners who see their need and God's provision

■ **Luke 18:14**

I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.

Implications and Applications

- 1) Justification is a gift of God to unworthy sinners who trust God not self
- 2) Propitiation is necessary for justification
- 3) Our prayers should be uttered in humility and the words should reflect humility

- 1) Justification is a gift of God to unworthy sinners who trust God not self

■ **Luke 16:14, 15**

Now the Pharisees, who were lovers of money, were listening to all these things and were scoffing at Him. And He said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of men, but God knows your hearts; for that which is highly esteemed among men is detestable in the sight of God."

1) Justification is a gift of God to unworthy sinners who trust God not self

■ **Luke 10:29**

But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

1) Justification is a gift of God to unworthy sinners who trust God not self

■ **Acts 13:38, 39** (HCSB)

Therefore, let it be known to you, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is being proclaimed to you, and everyone who believes in Him is justified from everything, which you could not be justified from through the law of Moses.

2) Propitiation is necessary for justification

■ **Hebrews 2:17**

Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

2) Propitiation is necessary for justification

■ **Romans 3:24, 25**

being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;

2) Propitiation is necessary for justification

■ **Romans 3:26**

for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

3) Our prayers should be uttered in humility and the words should reflect humility

■ **Isaiah 66:2**

“For My hand made all these things, Thus all these things came into being,” declares the Lord. “But to this one I will look, To him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word.”

3) Our prayers should be uttered in humility and the words should reflect humility

■ **Ezra 9:4, 5**

Then everyone who trembled at the words of the God of Israel on account of the unfaithfulness of the exiles gathered to me, and I sat appalled until the evening offering. But at the evening offering I arose from my humiliation, even with my garment and my robe torn, and I fell on my knees and stretched out my hands to the Lord my God;

3) Our prayers should be uttered in humility and the words should reflect humility

■ **Ezra 9:6**

and I said, “O my God, I am ashamed and embarrassed to lift up my face to You, my God, for our iniquities have risen above our heads and our guilt has grown even to the heavens.”

3) Our prayers should be uttered in humility and the words should reflect humility

■ **Ezra 9:7**

Since the days of our fathers to this day we have been in great guilt, and on account of our iniquities we, our kings and our priests have been given into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to plunder and to open shame, as it is this day.

3) Our prayers should be uttered in humility and the words should reflect humility

■ **Ezra 9:8**

But now for a brief moment grace has been shown from the Lord our God, to leave us an escaped remnant and to give us a peg in His holy place, that our God may enlighten our eyes and grant us a little reviving in our bondage.

3) Our prayers should be uttered in humility and the words should reflect humility

■ **Revelation 5:9**

And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation."
