

NIV TRANSLATION

Luke 18:9 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.'

Luke 18:13 "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.'

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."

KING JAMES TRANSLATION

Luke 18:9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon 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 every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

YOUNG'S TRANSLATION

Luke 18:9 And he spake also unto certain who have been trusting in themselves that they were righteous, and have been despising the rest, this simile: 10 Two men went up to the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee, and the other a tax-gatherer; 11 the Pharisee having stood by himself, thus prayed: God, I thank Thee that I am not as the rest of men, rapacious, unrighteous, adulterers, or even as this tax-gatherer; 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all things — as many as I possess. 13 'And the tax-gatherer, having stood afar off, would not even the eyes lift up to the heaven, but was smiting on his breast, saying, God be propitious to me — the sinner! 14 I say to you, this one went down declared righteous, to his house, rather than that one: for every one who is exalting himself shall be humbled, and he who is humbling himself shall be exalted.'

Scripture quotations are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Any use of bold, underline, ... or [] is ECC emphasis added.



September 19 & 20, 2026 | Call on the Name of the Lord | Luke 18:9-14 | Dennis Miller

COMPARING AND CONTRASTING IN TEACHING

- Rich man and Lazarus
- Wide road and Narrow road
- The Two Debtors
- Good Samaritan
- The Two Brothers (The Prodigal Son)
- The Wise Man and the Foolish Man

THE SCRIPTURES (ESV)

Luke 18:9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: 10 "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 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. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' 13 But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up 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, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

TODAY'S MESSAGE — TWO THOUGHTS

1. Extremely SIMPLE — humility.
2. Extremely HURTFUL —if you are self-righteous.

TWO PURPOSES IN THIS PARABLE

Jesus taught this parable specifically to those who . . .

1. Trusted in their own GOODNESS (comparatively).
2. Treated others with CONTEMPT.

TWO PEOPLE IN THIS PARABLE

There are two men that Jesus used as examples:

1. A RELIGIOUS leader
 - a. A BIBLE scholar
 - b. A PHILANTHROPIST
 - c. A religious LIFESTYLE
2. A tax collector ("the bottom of the barrel")
 - a. Questionable EMPLOYMENT (and association)
 - b. Questionable LIFESTYLE

TWO POSITIONS IN THIS PARABLE

1. The Pharisee stood BY HIMSELF.
2. The tax collector stood FAR AWAY.
 - a. He looked DOWNWARD.
 - b. He BEAT on his chest.

TWO PRAYERS IN THIS PARABLE

1. The Pharisee's prayer included:
 - a. Thanks that he was BETTER than others.
 - b. Thanks for the sins he has NOT committed.
 - c. Listing his religious QUALIFICATIONS (fasting and tithing) .

2. The tax collector's prayer included:

- a. A PLEA for MERCY (Literally, "please be propitious").
1John 2:2 He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
- b. An acknowledgment of his SINFUL ways ("God be propitious to me — THE sinner!"- Young's).

REMEMBER:

Receiving and giving MERCY daily is one of the KEY components of our Christian walk.

Matt 6:12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Lam. 3:22 . . . his mercies never come to an end; 23 they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Matt. 5:7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

But wait a minute, aren't we supposed to go to God BOLDLY?

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16 KJV)

"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:16 ESV)

TWO PRODUCTS IN THIS PARABLE

1. The Pharisee went home UNCHANGED because of the attitude of his HEART ("rather than the other").
2. The tax collector went home JUSTIFIED.

TWO PAYOFFS IN THIS PARABLE

1. If you exalt yourself, you will be HUMBLed.
2. If you humble yourself, God will LIFT you up.

TWO CHALLENGES FOR US

1. Have you ever truly cried out for God's mercy?
2. Have you become proud in your Christian faith?