



Heart of Grace
Ministries
Faith, Family and Love

Victory Begins With Thankfulness

Luke 18:9-14

[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.

The Pharisee was unaware of his greatest need. He started with thanks but it was the wrong kind. He was not thanking God for what grace had done for him, but for what he had done. This is the wrong attitude to possess! It was a “prayerless” prayer: he had said a prayer but did not

pray any. Prayers centered on our efforts will be about what we have done and not done. You see, he needed something human effort could not get. The Pharisee was unconcerned about the publican. The difference filled him with pride and not compassion. True thanksgiving produces thankful living.

Ask ourselves, are we thankful for?

- Love
- Mercy
- Compassion
- Peace
- Faithfulness
- Patience
- Kindness
- Benevolence
- Blessings
- Longsuffering
- Joy
- Perseverance
- Persistence
- Boldness
- Gladness
- Willingness
- Eagerness
- Leadership
- Salvation
- Blood of Jesus
- Baptism
- Forgiveness
- New Home In Heaven and Gone From hell
- Life Eternal

- Our soul will never die!

True thanksgiving changes us. Even though the Pharisee was at a good place (temple) and went with good intentions (to pray) he went out unchanged and not justified by faith. Millions of people go out unchanged from church. Strive to not make the same mistake!

Let us learn to walk as this publican. He went home forgiven and could then be truly thankful!

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