



I Am a Horrible Sinner

By Taylor Braswell on January 26

READING: Luke 18

Luke 18:9-14 is a familiar passage of scripture to a lot of people. A Pharisee and a tax collector are both praying, but the two men are seen totally differently by God.

There is a key phrase we must not skip over in verse 9, *“some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous.”* One of the main differences in the lives of these two men is that one thought they were a good person and the other knew they were a horrible sinner. The Pharisee compares himself to others who he thinks are “worse” than he is. The Pharisee also trusted in things he had done to earn a right standing before God. There are not enough “good things” in the world you can do to earn a right standing before God. You cannot earn your salvation! This is good news because Jesus offers us the gift of eternal life based upon His good record, not ours. You see, if we could earn our salvation, that would mean we could also lose it. If you could lose your salvation, you would. Thankfully, we cannot lose something we did not earn.

Let us have the same heart as the tax collector and daily ask God, *“Have mercy on me, a sinner.”* Realizing you are a sinner and that it is only by grace you are saved should change how you view other people! As Christians, we have no right to look down on others as if we are better than them. These truths should motivate us to pray for others and share the gospel with them. I am a horrible sinner and so are you, thanks be to God that we are justified by faith in Christ.

PRAYER: God, thank You for showing me mercy today although I do not deserve it. Help me view others as sinners in need of a Savior. Keep me humble and help me only depend on You in my everyday life.

TOMORROW'S READING: Luke 19

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