



THE PARABLES OF JESUS
“THE PARABLE OF THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN”
LUKE 18: 9-14

JESUS EXPOSES THE PRAYER THAT GOD WON'T ANSWER IN THIS PARABLE. HE TOLD THE PARABLE FOR PEOPLE WHO MISTAKENLY THINK THEY ARE PRAYING WHEN IN FACT THEY ARE ONLY TALKING TO THEMSELVES. JESUS TELLS US SOMETHING ABOUT GOD AND THE QUALITY OF HUMILITY WHICH IS A PRELUDE TO PRAYER POWER. HIS PURPOSE WAS TO ALARM AND HELP “CERTAIN ONES WHO TRUSTED IN THEMSELVES THAT THEY WERE RIGHTEOUS, AND VIEWED OTHERS WITH CONTEMPT”(V. 9). WHO OF US CAN ESCAPE THE BROAD SWEEP OF THAT CONVICTING NET OF TRUTH?

JESUS HAS A GREAT DEAL TO SAY TO US ABOUT WHY OUR PRAYERS ARE OFTEN SO INEFFECTIVE. THE PROBLEM IS NOT JUST OUR PRAYERS, BUT THE DOMINANT FOCUS OF OUR TOTAL LIFE.

JESUS TELLS A PARABLE ABOUT TWO MEN WHO PRAYED, BUT THE PRAYERS THEY PRAYED COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE DIFFERENT. THE PRAYER PRAYED BY EACH OF THESE MEN SHOULD HAVE BEEN EXPECTED OF THE OTHER.

I. TWO MEN (V. 10)

1. THE PHARISEE. WHAT THE PHARISEES WERE:

- A. PROUD.
- B. SELF-RIGHTEOUS.
- C. OUTWARDLY RELIGIOUS.
- D. SELF-SUFFICIENT.
- E. OSTENTATIOUS.
- F. HYPOCRITICAL.
- G. DESPISERS OF OTHERS.

2. THE PUBLICAN. WHAT HE WAS:

- A. A TAX-GATHERER.
- B. SCORNED BY PHARISEES.
- C. DESPISED BY THE PUBLIC.
- D. A SINNER WHO KNEW HIS NEED, AND WHO CAME TO THE LORD.

II. TWO PRAYERS (VV. 11-13)

1. THE PHARISEE'S PRAYER.

- A. WHERE HE PRAYED.
- B. HOW HE PRAYED.
- C. WHAT HE PRAYED ABOUT.

2. THE PUBLICAN'S PRAYER.

- A. HIS POSITION.
- B. HIS ATTITUDE.
 - (1) HUMILITY
 - (2) REPENTANCE
- C. HIS CRY.

III. TWO RESULTS (V. 14)

1. THE PHARISEE---HE WALKED OUT AS HE WALKED IN---SELF-RIGHTEOUS.

2. THE PUBLICAN--- JUSTIFIED.

Presented by Dr. Jimmy Hilton

**SOUTH POINT
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Finding God's Direction for Life



APPLICATION

THE CONCLUSION OF THE PARABLE REVEALS HOW GOD RESPONDED TO THE PRAYERS OF BOTH MEN. HE DID NOT HEAR OR RESPOND TO THE PRIDE OF THE PHARISEE. THE HUMILITY OF THE PUBLICAN WAS RECOGNIZED AND GIVEN THE ULTIMATE GIFT--- JUSTIFICATION. ONE HAD THE FEELING OF BEING RIGHT WITH GOD AND THE OTHER DID NOT. HUMILITY OPENS THE FLOODGATES OF THE HEART OF GOD!