

**LIVING IN GRACE - #3**  
**TRANSFORMING GRACE MADE REAL**

**Luke 18:9 - 14**

# WHAT DOES TRANSFORMING GRACE LOOK LIKE?

- **Pharisee** (“separated ones”): lay religious sect intent on keeping the law in every respect. 1 of 3 sects in Judaism (Sadducees & Essenes).
- **Tax collector**: hired by Romans to collect taxes. Considered as traitors by Jews; in NT described as “**tax collectors and sinners**”

# THE PHARISEE – VERSES 11-12

1. Stands.
2. Justifies himself.
3. He is prejudiced towards the tax collector.
4. False value of “good”;
  - blind to the weeping man behind him.
5. Blind to how far from God he is.
  - Never calls on God or asks God for anything.

- For **all of us** have become like one who is unclean, And **all our righteous deeds** are like a filthy garment; ...<sup>7</sup> There is **no one who calls on Your name**, Who **arouses himself to take hold of You**; For You have hidden Your face from us And have delivered us into the power of our iniquities. (Isa. 64:6-7 NAU)

- And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, <sup>4</sup> in whose case the **god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving** so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (2 Cor. 4:3-4 NAU)

# THE TAX COLLECTOR – VERSE 13

1. **Stands** – at a “**distance.**”
  - Holy God (Isaiah 6:5)
2. **Humble.** Broken. Despair.
3. **Repentant** – “the” sinner
  - Bows head, beats chest, cries out
4. **Surrendered** to God.

# JESUS' WORDS

- Justified - Sins propitiated, atoned for, forgiven.
  - and He Himself is the **propitiation** for our sins; ... --1 Jn. 2:2 (NASB)
  - Therefore, having been **justified** by our faith, we have **peace with God** through our Lord Jesus ... Romans 5:1

# WHAT DID GRACE LOOK LIKE?

1. **Instantaneous** – not a process; a **declaration**.  
John 3:15-16
2. **Unmerited** - came as he was, repentant heart.
3. **Gift of God** that **justified** the **believing**.
  - being **justified as a gift by His grace** through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; (Rom. 3:24 NAU)

# WHAT DID GRACE LOOK LIKE?

4. **Complete.** Nothing else required (or he would be saved by works). Romans 11:6.
5. **Power of Grace transformed the man.**
  - 2 Cor 5:17
  - Eph 1:7-8

## NEXT STEPS

1. Humble yourself before God. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you where you are not living in the power of grace.
  - A. Confess this to God.
  - B. Agree that only the power of God can change you.
  - C. Request God to change you.

## NEXT STEPS

2. If you are **not living in the power of God's grace** in some area of your life, find an accountability partner (not your spouse) who is willing to **help you believe** in God's power and **help you participate with Christ** to bring you freedom.

- ***Resource to help: Finally Free*** by Heath Lambert