

BE HUMBLE OR BE HUMILIATED

Reference: **Luke 18:9-14**

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Jesus told a parable about two contrasting individuals: i.e. a Pharisee and a publican.

There were four sects (groups) in ancient Judaism: the _____, _____, _____, and _____.

The Pharisees were divided into two categories that were named after two famous Jewish Rabbi's: _____ and _____.

The name "*Pharisee*" means "_____", but the Pharisees were so separated they ended up isolating themselves from anyone else who was not a Pharisee. The Pharisees were arrogant, egotistical, religious snobs, trusting in their own self-righteousness, and despising others.

In **verse eleven**, the Pharisee prayed and reminded God of what he was not; and then in **verse twelve**, he reminded God of what he was, as though God was going to be impressed.

Publicans collected taxes in order to fund the Roman government. The Pharisees hated Rome and considered publicans to be traitors to the Jewish people. The second man in this parable was a publican that, out of sincere remorse for his sin, prayed a strategic prayer in **verse thirteen**, "...*God be merciful to me a sinner*".

Grace and mercy are opposites:

- **Grace** is when we receive something we _____ deserve
- **Mercy** is when we don't receive something we _____ deserve

God was merciful to this publican, and, because of his prayer, he was justified. Justification is one of the primary things that happen to someone at salvation.

Definition: *justification is the instantaneous and divine transaction at someone's salvation that **removes his sins** and **credits him** with _____ from God.*

The second part of **verse fourteen** illustrates a two-part principle about pride, the Pharisee's core problem.

PART ONE is pride will result in someone's _____
"*...for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled...*"

Reference: **Proverbs 16:18**, "*Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*"

Reference: **I Corinthians 10:12**, "*Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.*"

PART TWO is humility will result in someone's _____
"*...he who humbles himself will be exalted.*"

Reference: **I Peter 5:6**, "*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God that He may exalt you in due time.*"

Reference: **Proverbs 15:33**, "... *before honor is humility.*"

Four practical ways to develop a humble attitude:

- Through admitting our own _____
- Through being _____ with weaknesses in others
- Through being open to _____
- Through focusing the attention on _____ instead of on ourselves

Reference: **Proverbs 27:2** (see screen)