

Whom Does God Consider Righteous? Luke 18:9-14

Jesus intended this parable for folks who trusted “in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt.” Evidence for whether it applies to you or me is seen in what goes through our minds when we walk into gatherings of people. Are we proudly thinking, “I’m smarter and better off than these folks”? That’s the first quality at which Jesus aimed this parable: confidence in one’s own virtue and uprightness.

Here’s the second: they look down on everybody else. “I’m better. I’m more successful. I do right, and I’m smarter.”

In talking with one of my brothers once about a fellow we’d both observed, I recall saying that I didn’t think that the guy had all of his lights lined up properly. Too often, I find myself thinking that I’ve done more than most others do

When I assume that I’m the one with the superior knowledge and behavior, I can’t base my supposition on any credible evidence. If Jesus were present at any event that I attend, he might well direct a similar parable toward me.

Paul, the Apostle would likely add, “All of our righteousness is as filthy rags.” Finally, and of most importance. Only God is good; I should constantly be glorifying him.



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No sign-in required. Bob does not ask for or want contributions.