

Series: Amazing Grace

“The Scandalous Economy of Amazing Grace”

(Sunday Morning January 23rd, 2022)

Passage: Luke 18:9-14

The Bible teaches us very clearly that no man or woman will ever get into heaven on the basis of doing good works, or by being religious or s_____.

Isa 64:6 “...all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment;...”

Rom 3:20 “...by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight;...”

Phil 3:8 “More than that, I count all (These) things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord,...” (Emphasis Added)

I. A Religious Man’s P_____ D_____

1) His Problem

There is nothing wrong with pursuing a righteous and holy life, in fact, this is commendable and pleasing to God. There is something wrong, however, with our pursuit of a righteous and holy life if this causes us to have c_____ for other people.

2 Cor 5:16 “Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh,...”

2) His Position

When Jesus first told this parable, the people in that generation would have considered this man to have been a national patriot and a religious h_____.

Matt 5:20 “...unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven”

3) His Posture

The original language of the New Testament suggests that there was something more to this man than just standing; it literally says that the Pharisee “s_____ a p_____.”

Matt 6:5 (Reference)

4) His Prayer

Matthew 6:13 (Reference)

Apparently, this man felt that he should be c_____ by God, because he had never committed any of the grosser infractions of the law of God.

Lev 23:27-32 (Reference)

Matt 23:2 (Reference)

This Pharisee took his tithing to such an extreme that he tithed on everything he p_____ just in case the person he bought it from wasn’t a tither.

5) His Pride

2 Cor 10:12 "We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise"

Whether you are a better person than me or whether I am a better person than you doesn't matter, because we are all ultimately accountable to a p_____ God.

II. A Reprehensible Man's H_____ C_____

1) His Position

Tax Collectors were considered to be in a religiously i_____ situation, because, according to the Law of Moses, a person who stole something was required to pay back all they had stolen plus 1/5th or 20%.
(Lev 5:16)

2) His Posture

The Greek uses a different word for "stand" here than it does in verse 11, and this word suggests a t_____.

Luke 23:48 "And all the crowds who came together for this spectacle, when they observed what had happened, began to return, beating their breasts."

3) His Prayer

Heb 2:17 "Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people."

This was a f_____, in other words, of the grace that would ultimately be provided for us by our Lord at the cross of calvary.

4) His Praise

This is the scandalous economy of amazing grace; God's grace covered it all, but all of the Pharisee's good works combined d_____ c_____ a_____.

The best man lost, because there are really only two religions in this world: the religion of human a_____ and the religion of Divine a_____.

Matt 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven"

Matt 21:31 "...Truly I say to you that the tax collectors and prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you"

With this parable, Jesus essential said, "It is i_____ to be too bad to be saved, but it is p_____ " to be too good to be saved."

Eph 2:8-9 "8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, so that no one may boast"