

Parables of Jesus part 3, "A Pharisee and a Tax Collector"

Luke 18:9-14

Luke 18:9

Luke 18:10

Historical Background

In the time of Jesus, Pharisees were the most popular of all Jewish religious leaders.

Tax collectors on the other hand were some of the most despised

Luke 18:11-12

Galatians 3:28

Myth of the Hero Sacrifice

There is a love that sincerely seeks the spiritual good of others, and there is a love that is seeking superiority, admiration, and control for itself, even and especially by doing good, even heroic good and sacrifice.

The Tax Collector

Luke 18:13

If the picture of the Pharisee is largely realistic, then the picture of the tax collector defies all cultural expectations...

Luke 18:14

"For everyone who exalts themselves will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Pride means the task is more important than the people. The objective becomes the obstacle to human relationships and with God himself. Jesus condemned pride because it is so insidiously destructive.

God sees the humble in heart and lifts them up in honor. This is the way and the Jesus challenge!

Philippians 2:1-5 NLT