



Why self-righteousness leads to trouble...

1. It doesn't work

“For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are.” Rom 3:20

“But the people of Israel, who tried so hard to get right with God by keeping the law, never succeeded. Why not? Because they were trying to get right with God by keeping the law instead of by trusting in him...” Rom 9:31-32

Why self-righteousness leads to trouble...

1. It doesn't work

2. It keeps us from grace/forgiveness

“⁴ When people work, their wages are not a gift, but something they have earned. ⁵ But people are counted as righteous, not because of their work, but because of their faith in God who forgives sinners.”

Rom. 4:4-5

Why self-righteousness leads to trouble...

1. It doesn't work
2. It keeps us from grace/forgiveness
3. It results in pride, prejudice and pretense

“Jesus never intended to found a new religion. Instead he came to break down religion as a way to God and replace it with Himself.” Bruxey Cavey

#noperfectpeople

The soil that hearts grow best in is one of humility not pride, grace not legalism, and authenticity not pretense.

**The church is not a museum
for saints but a hospital for sinners**

“But when the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with such scum?” When Jesus heard this, he said, “Healthy people don’t need a doctor—sick people do.” Then he added, “Now go and learn the meaning of this Scripture: ‘I want you to show mercy, not offer sacrifices.’ For I have come to call not those who think they are righteous, but those who know they are sinners.” Matt. 9:11-13

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“All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!”...“Where are your accusers? Didn’t even one of them condemn you?” ¹¹ “No, Lord,” she said. And Jesus said, “Neither do I. Go and sin no more.”” John 8:7,10-11

“Though the world cannot offer grace, in its absence, it found an inexpensive substitute: tolerance. The very idea of tolerance implies enduring or putting up with something you don’t like or value. Our culture diets on the candy of tolerance, but what it really craves is the meat of grace. Tolerance does not value people but simply puts up with their behavior or beliefs. Tolerance alone cannot accommodate both justice and mercy - it can only look the other way. Tolerance might deal with differences, but it can’t embrace us in full knowledge of sin and remove our guilt.” John Burke

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“Outwardly you look like righteous people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness.”

Matt. 23:28

“Jesus comes not for the super-spiritual but for the wobbly and the weak-kneed who know they don’t have it all together, and who are not too proud to accept the handout of amazing grace.”

Brennan Manning

“The longer I walk with Christ, the more I see the Pharisee in me. To do this I must break through the deception that I am somehow better than others. That I am somehow less in need of God’s mercy and grace than the sicko’s and sinners of this world.”

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**The church is a place where the
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“In my mind I make the journey up the hill to Golgotha every day. It’s a war memorial I need to visit. Rembrandt painted a picture of the cross. At first glance, his rendering is really no different than most Renaissance paintings - a hill, three crosses, a dark sky, and a crowd. What separates it from other paintings of the cross though is that in the crowd there is a man dressed in modern clothes, he stands out from the other observers. Rembrandt knew enough to paint himself into the picture. I don’t want to forget the cross. So I run my hand over the contours of wood. And with each return visit I find my name etched in the bloodstained grain. And I remember: I once was dead but now I am alive.” John Weece

“Christians ought to be celebrating constantly. We ought to be preoccupied with parties, banquets, feasts, and merriment. We ought to give ourselves over to veritable orgies of joy because we have been liberated from the fear of life and the fear of death. We ought to attract people to the church quite literally by the fun there is in being a Christian.”

Robert Hutchins

“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”—and I am the worst of them all. But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.”

1 Timothy 1:15-16

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