



...but the
Pharisees

Right vs. Wrong?

We care a lot about being right.



...but the
Pharisees

- Parents
- Other people
- God
- Myself

**We don't just want to be right -
most of us build our lives on being right.**

**What if we've built our life on a foundation
God never intended?**



...but the
Pharisees

The Pharisees:

- Experts in the law and obedience to it.
- Influential - respected and disciplined
- Focused on external behavior
- Prone to pride
- Resisted and rejected Jesus

Luke 18:9 - 14

Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else:

Luke 18:9

“Two men went to the Temple to pray.

One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector.

Luke 18:10

The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this
prayer:

Luke 18:11

‘I thank you, God, that I am not like other people - cheaters, sinners, adulterers.

I’m certainly not like that tax collector!

Luke 18:11

I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.'

Luke 18:12

But the tax collector stood at a distance and
dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he
prayed.

Luke 18:13

Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying,
'O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.'

Luke 18:13

I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God.

Luke 18:14

For those who exalt themselves will be humbled,
and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Luke 18:14

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1) Demolish the Performance Standard

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of
God's glorious standard.

Romans 3:23

I do not treat the grace of God as meaningless.
For if keeping the law could make us right with
God, then there was no need for Christ to die.

Galatians 2:21

2) Receive and Build on Grace

For this is how God loved the world:
He gave his one and only son, so that everyone
who believes in him will not perish but have
eternal life.

John 3:16

For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:21

God saved you by his grace when you believed.
And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift
from God.

Ephesians 2:8

Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

Ephesians 2:9

3) Live from Gratitude

Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.

Ephesians 5:1 - 2

4) Demonstrate it to Others

The man answered,
“You must love the LORD your God with all
your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and
all your mind.’ And, ‘Love your neighbor as
yourself.’”

Luke 10:27



...but the
Pharisees



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We don't live to prove or defend we are right.

We live from being made right by God.

“God, thank you for being merciful to me, a sinner.”

Let that define all your relationships.



...but the
Pharisees