

Justified Repentance Luke 18: 9-14

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He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

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"Beloved, the legalist [in us] is a great deal older than the Christian. If I were a legalist today, I should be some fifteen or sixteen years older than I am as a Christian; for we are all born legalists."

- Charles Spurgeon

Religion vs Christianity

Religion

- Relate to God by being good
- God owes me
- Saved by being better than everyone else
- Details of the law matter for salvation

Christianity

- Relate to God through
 Jesus
- I owe God
- Saved by accepting I am no better than anyone else
- The Law is an example

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Teachers and Prophets

- Teachers and Prophets
- Kingdom and King

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- Commandments and Laws

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- Walk with God

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That means a moralist says, "I've sinned, but look at all the good things I'm doing. Look how often I come to church. Look at how faithful a spouse I am. Look at what a great career I have. Look at this and that, and look at that and this and that." The Christian says, "No, I even repent of that. I even give up that. I see the only way Jesus Christ can receive me is if I completely rely on what he has done, not on anything I have done." That's the difference between a Christian and a moralist.

- Tim Keller

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Kids Question

Christians don't just repent of their sin they also repent of their _____?