



Paul VS Jesus

What  
is  
the  
GOSPEL?

**Lk 2:10** “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

**Lk 22:20** “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood”.

**Jer 31:34** “I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more”.

**Lk 22:37** “I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: ‘And he was numbered with the transgressors.’ For what is written about me has its fulfillment”

**Is 53:11** “Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities”

**Lk18:9-14** “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.”

# His Righteousness is Moral

**V10–11** “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.’”

# His Righteousness is Religious or Ceremonial

**V12** “I fast twice a week; I give tithes of  
all that I get

# He Believed this Righteousness Was the Gift of God

**V11** “The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men.’”

# Are we on the right track?

**Lk 17:10** “So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’”



Here's the error. People confuse their own ongoing participation in the process of sanctification with God's finished work in justification. They then allow their performance of spiritual duties to become their preoccupation and source of self-righteous pride. In doing so, they unwittingly walk away from the gospel.

**V13-14** “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.”

**Lk 18:18–21** “And a ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’” And he said, “All these I have kept from my youth.”

V22 “One thing you still lack.” Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”

# Jesus's gospel is also Paul's

Phil 3:4-9 “If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ..... as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ..... For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith.”

# Stop looking down on others!

No matter how moral you are, or how religious you are, or what God has produced in you, do not trust in anything that is in you, or that you do, as the basis of your justification before God. That is not how you are accepted. Trust in Christ alone. NOT EVEN IN WHAT HE HAS DONE IN YOUR LIFE.

# Stop being defeated. Take heart!

Take heart in your struggle with indwelling sin, and remember that your standing as a child of God is not based in yourself but in Christ alone. When you feel like a failure where will you look if not to Christ for your righteousness?

# Transformation is the fruit, not the root, of justification

All your good intentions and good works will serve at the judgment not as the grounds of your acceptance, but only as the public fruit and evidence that you were in Christ, who is your justification!



**Eph 2:8-10** “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”