

**A Dangerous Righteousness:**  
*Learning Grace through “Good” Pharisees & the Great Physician*  
Part 3

**Glorious Grace**

Galatians 2:14-21

Introduction:

*Remember the Parable of the Two Prodigal Sons?*

I. The Way of the Pharisee

A. Legalism in the Pursuit of Salvation

Saying or implying that anything we do or do not do earns or contributes to God's salvation.

B. Legalism in the Pursuit of Sanctification

Saying or implying that Christian faithfulness (holiness/righteousness/growth) can be measured by conformity to practices or prohibitions that are not plainly taught to Christians in God's Word.

C. “Fences” -

“The Pharisees ardently believed that God had told them to fence the Law. The Mishnah declares the Pharisees' mandate: ‘Moses received the Law from Sinai and committed it to Joshua, and Joshua to the elders, and the elders to the Prophets; and the Prophets committed it to the men of the Great Synagogue. they said three things: Be deliberate in judgment; raise up many disciples; and make a fence around the Law.’” - Tom Hovestol

D. God's Perspective on Pharisees of All Ages: *Four Biblical Examples*

1. The Pharisees in the Gospels

**Matthew 23:13-33**

2. The Judaisers of Galatia

**Galatians 2:19-21**

3. The Ephesian Church of Revelation 2

**Revelation 2:1-5**

4. OT Israel

**Isaiah 1; Jeremiah 2:12-13**

## II. The Way of Grace

### *The Spiritual Progression of Grace Transformation:*

A. What we Treasure determines what *Want*.

*It is our Treasure more than our Training that cultivates our Tastes.*

**Hebrews 11:24**

B. What we Want directs what we *Look at*.

*It is our Affections more than our Intentions that focus our Attention.*

**Matthew 6:19-20    Colossians 3:1-4**

C. What or Who we Look at molds what we *Do*.

*It is what we Behold more than what we Bemoan that molds what we Become*

**2 Corinthians 5:18**

D. What we Do, therefore, will be faithfully transformed more through:

Relationship than Religion

Mercy than Methodology

Worshipping God than Wallowing in Guilt

Studying God than Managing our Sin

Grateful Enjoyment than in Groaning Self-denial

Freedom than Fences or Formulas

Refreshment than Renovation

## Conclusion:

*The Good News of Our Sanctification*

**Galatians 2:14-21**

14 But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, "If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews? 15 We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, 16 knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

17 "But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! 18 For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. 19 For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. 20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. 21 I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain."