

WHO IS JUSTIFIED?

Joe Wright Griggs

Two persons were in church one day,
In separate pews, each came to pray.
The first, a pious elder stood
And thanked the Lord: "That I'm so good!"

"I go to church each Sunday morn
As I have done since I was born.
I give some funds to charity,
I model Christianity!"

"A church is not a place for scum,
I wonder who let in this bum?
As elder I shall make quite sure
This sanctuary is kept pure!"

The other knelt and bowed his head
With guilt, in true repentance said:
*"Dear Lord have mercy on my soul,
Forgive my sins and make me whole!"*

"I've spent my life in sin and shame
And brought disgrace on Jesus' name.
I haven't been to church in years -
Nor have I prayed - forgive my tears."

"Today I'm really hurting, Lord,
I need the healing of Your Word!
I need to know that you forgive
That in Your Kingdom I can live!"

Which of these two was justified?
Which one to God and self had lied?
Which one let pride get in the way?
And, which one modeled "How to Pray?"

In a parable concerning a proud Pharisee, Jesus said to His Disciples:
"I tell you, this man (the humble) went down to his house justified ..."
Luke 18:14 from The King James Bible