



Jonah

Grace for the Self-Righteous

June 25, 2017 / Dan Solofra

Self-Righteous: Depending on and looking to "self" for a reason to have confidence in standing before God and his judgment. Believing one is morally superior.

Christ-Righteous: Depending on and looking only to Jesus for reason to have confidence in standing before God and his judgment. Believing one is no better than anyone else.

²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" . . .

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Luke 10:25,29, NIV

⁹ To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: Luke 18:9, NIV

_____ - _____ is a sickness that infects every single one of us.

¹But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. Jonah 4:1, NIV

Christ-Righteousness seemed _____ to Jonah because it is not _____.

²He prayed to the LORD, "Isn't this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³ Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ But the LORD replied, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Jonah 4:2-4, NIV

Self-Righteousness will drive us _____ and separate us from our God who freely _____.

⁵ Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. ⁶ Then the LORD God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. ⁷ But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live." ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?" "It is," he said. "And I'm so angry I wish I were dead." Jonah 4:5-9, NIV

The LORD _____ and _____ a vine to show our great need for _____.

¹⁰ But the LORD said, "You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹ And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?" Jonah 4:10-11, NIV

In the book of Jonah we see God's grace, for _____.

MEMORY VERSE

I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Jonah 4:2^b, NIV

My next step: I will pursue the righteousness won for me by Jesus Christ. I will thank God for the grace shown to me and extend grace . . . to everyone.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.