

Faith Christian Fellowship
Sunday, February 4, 2018
R U Sanctified or Sanctimonious?
3: Do You Need a Doctor?

TEXT: Matthew 12:1-8 / Hosea 6:6

Religion is a man-made form of attempting to please God through a series of rituals and good works. When we study the subject of sanctification, holiness, purity, etc. we tend to look for law, not relationships. We become Pharisees, ignoring our own fallibility and denying the value of other people. Before we go further in our discussion of personal purity, let's take the vaccination against pharisaism.

Sanctified: set apart to a sacred purpose or to religious use: consecrated; freed from sin; purified.

Sanctimonious: making a hypocritical show of religious devotion, piety, righteousness, etc.:

Which are you? **Today:** Do you need a doctor?

- 1) Pharisees keep the rules and miss the point.
 - a) Mercy or sacrifice, which pleases God?
 - i) Matthew 12:7 "I will have mercy and not sacrifice"?
 - ii) They were standing next to the Messiah and couldn't see Him. God is not tired, you are. God's provision is for those in need, not for Him
 - iii) Matthew 9:12-13 The story of Jesus having supper with Matthew discloses their attitude toward those whom they perceive to be failing.
 - b) When I see another human in distress, do I look for who to blame or how to help? God wants them to know Him, not give up tomatoes for Sunday. What things do you think or say that immediately look to blame God or the victim?
 - c) What laws have you made up to bind yourself and others? Fill in the blank: "I'm no good if I don't ..."
 - d) What's the difference between self-discipline and bondage? Between obedience and submission?
 - i) The reason and the consequences for failure are different.
 - ii) The purpose is to know God, not appease Him.
 - e) Notice Jesus prescription for the Pharisees in Matthew 9:13. **"Go learn what this scripture means."** The scripture He is referring to is Hosea 6:6 I want you to show love, not offer sacrifices. I want you to know Me more than I want burnt offerings (NLT)
 - f) God wants two things mercy (covenant love) and knowing Him.

- 2) The David illustration:
 - a) The trappings of the Temple are there for the benefit of God's people. 1 Sam 21:6
 - b) **This kind of righteousness makes religious people very nervous.** How can you have the audacity to walk into the presence of God without being afraid or ashamed?
 - c) Romans 4:5-8 We read it, we say amen, then we impute sin to ourselves and to those we meet.
 - i) "Justifies the ungodly" - God declares us not guilty, puts righteousness in our account, by faith alone.
 - ii) Righteousness is a gift that comes completely separate from our actions.
 - iii) Romans 3:19-21 The rules show us our powerlessness to keep them. That is all they can do.
 - iv) Eph 4:24 This righteousness has to do with who we are, not what we do. See Rom 5:17-19
 - v) 2 Cor 5:21 It is a swap - your guilt for His innocence. You are made that way.
- 3) The results of this **outrageous righteousness:**
 - a) Heb 10:2 No more consciousness of sins, restored to Garden level fellowship. As if Adam had never sinned. Romans 5:12-21
 - b) Heb 10:19-22 boldness to enter the Holiest - the presence of God.
 - c) Heb 4:16 boldness to come to the throne with any request. Remember David and the shewbread. All the Father has belongs to you.
 - d) Prov 28:1 Boldness before men. No sense of hidden shame or inadequacy.
 - e) Is 54:14-17 Boldness in the face of enemy assault. Fear is abolished by the sense of righteousness
 - f) This kind of righteousness allows me to imitate Him in mercy.

Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you. Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are His dear children. Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered Himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God. Ephesians 4:31- 5:2