

A WEEKLY WORD October 23rd, 2022

By Lois Drover

Readings: Joel 2.23-32; Psalm 65, 2 Timothy 4.6-8,16-18; Luke 18.9-14

Luke 18.9-14 is the story of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector. It is one of the first Bible Stories I heard as a child and one I always remembered. It is the story of 2 men who were in the temple to pray and one was full of pride and self righteousness and the other was humble and repentant.

When we come before the Lord, who are we? The haughty Pharisee or the humble tax collector? What is our demeanor when we approach the Throne of Grace?

I remember thinking as a child that the tax collector must be a really bad person to be afraid to look up to heaven and to call himself a sinner. Now as an adult I realize we are all sinners and need to seek our Lord with a humble and contrite heart. We are no better than anyone else in the church or outside of it for that matter. Sometimes we can act very self righteous because we go to church every Sunday and give our tithe as required, but in the eyes of our Almighty God, we are just his children, always making mistakes and trying to do better each day. We will never be perfect, but we can strive each day to improve our selves by spending time with God in His Word and in prayer for ourselves and for each other.

Psalm 65:5 By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.