

If we don't have Jesus' righteousness, we have nothing.



THOSE WHO ARE SO PROUD of their own success and their own righteousness that they thank God they are “not like other men” (Luke 18:11) tend to look down on others and have no mercy, no compassion, no sympathy. But in God’s sight, such self-righteous pride is one of the worst sins of all (Isaiah 64:6).

Some people have to go through a lot before they get humbled, like King David. David probably had a lot of pride and needed to be humbled before God could use him to lead His people, because look at the great things he did before that. As a boy he fought and killed a lion and a bear to protect his father’s sheep, and then he killed Goliath, the giant champion of the attacking Philistines, and all Israel hailed him as a great hero (1 Samuel 17:34–37,49; 18:6–7). Apparently David then became proud, lost his fear of God, and committed some awful sins. Worst of all, he became a self-righteous sinner because he covered it up and pretended to be righteous. Finally the judgments of God fell and he lost everything (2 Samuel 11–12). But a marvelous change occurred in him after God humbled him.

We haven’t got anybody’s righteousness except Jesus’, and He’s the only One who can give it to us (Philippians 3:9).