

Justifying Self

Job 9:20

"Though I be righteous, mine own mouth shall condemn me: Though I be perfect, it shall prove me perverse."

Points Respecting Job

- Perfect and upright. **Job 1:8; cf. 2:10**
- Afflicted at the instigation of Satan. **Job 1:10-11**
- Wife and friends turned against him. **Job 2:9; 5:17** (Eliphaz); **8:6** (Bildad)
- Self justification = condemnation. **Job 9:20**
- Yet, this was his outstanding fault. **Job 32:1-2; 34:5**

Examples Of Self-Justification

- Adam and Eve. **Gen. 3:12-13**
- Saul. **1 Sam. 15**
- The Lawyer. **Lk. 10:25-37**
 - Forced to answer his own question. **Vs. 25-27**
 - Changed the subject. **Vs. 29**
- Pharisees. **Lk. 16:1-15**
 - Would take any position to justify self. **Cf. Mt. 21:23-32**
 - Would belittle others to justify self. **Lk. 18:9-12**

Self-Justification At The Judgment

- Many claim works to their credit. **Mt. 7:22-23**
- Some claim ignorance of their failures. **Mt. 25:41ff**

Reasons For Self-Justification

- To satisfy own conscience. **Prov. 30:12; Rev. 3:17**
- To receive man's approval. **Lk. 16:14-15; cf. Mt. 23:27-28**
- To avoid God's condemnation. **Cf. Adam & Eve, Saul, etc.; Cf. Mt. 7:21-23**

Present Day Efforts At Self-Justification

- Religious division. **1 Cor. 1:10; Jno. 17:17,20ff**
- "What will be will be..." **Rom. 6:16ff**
- I'm better than _____.
"Hypocrites in the church."
Cf. 2 Cor. 10:12
- Had to go to church when a child...

Better To Acknowledge Sin & Accept Responsibility

- Bible Examples...
 - Saul. **1 Sam. 15:24**
 - David. **2 Sam. 12:13**
 - Daniel prays for the people.
Dan. 9:5ff
 - Achan. **Josh. 7:20**

Commending ourselves will not make us approved of God.

"For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth." 2 Cor 10:18