Tuesday's Touch ...#12

...from Pastor Ed ...April 14, 2009

Harry

He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." Luke 18:9-14

Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.
1 Corinthians 10:12

...comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.
1 Thess. 5:14

Over there's Harry, he dresses in black,
Comes once in a while and sits in the back.
There's beer on his breath and smoke on his shirt,
Hopes coming today might help with the hurt.

Up near the front, there sits Deacon Tom,
Praising the Lord with a smile pasted on.
With a family of four all proper and prim,
He prays for Harry to be made just like him.

As the service concludes and the invite is made,
All eyes are on Harry- he's got to get saved.
But he doesn't go forward, never moves from his place;
And none catch the track of the tear on his face.

But unseen by any, and sent from above,
The Spirit of grace with comfort and love
Brings Harry the hope to face one more day;
His struggle goes on, but faith makes a way.

Resting secure Tom's life has been blessed;
Says keeping the rules has brought him success.
Says sinners like Harry just need to repent,
Do what they should - good things will be sent.

On a cold winter's day as he stands by the grave,
Tom thinks, "What a shame- Harry never got saved."
He hasn't a clue as he shakes in the wind,
Harry's in heaven praying for him.

Merciful Savior of the weak,
Make me like you.
Amen

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