

Luke 19:1-10

¹ And *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho. ² And, behold, *there was* a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. ³ And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. ⁴ And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way. ⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house. ⁶ And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. ⁷ And when they saw *it*, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. ⁸ And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore *him* fourfold. ⁹ And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Introduction

- I. Introduction
 - A. Huge crowds followed Jesus everywhere with great expectations
 - B. Crowds thought that the Kingdom of God should immediately appear (Lk 19:11)
 - C. As Jesus approaches Jericho, a blind man hears a huge crowd passing by him (Lk 18:36)
 - D. Jesus passes through & leaves city of Jericho (Lk 19:1)
 - E. Jesus is on His way to city of Jerusalem where He will die on the cross (Lk 18:31-34)
 - F. Zacchaeus was a high-ranking publican (tax collector) for the Roman Empire (Lk 19:2)
 - G. Zacchaeus was also very short & very rich (Lk 19:3)
 - H. What was Zacchaeus asking?

And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. (Luk 11:9)

- II. Courage to Seek – the Lord
 - A. Zacchaeus sought Jesus – looked for Jesus
 1. Identity of Zacchaeus – chief publican (tax collector boss)
 - a. Publican tax collectors hated by Jewish society
 - b. Seen as traitors by Jewish society
 - c. Publicans often charged an extra fee over & above the tax to line their own pockets
 - d. Many publicans became rich in this manner

2. Interest in seeing Jesus
 - a. Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus for himself
 - b. Many also had wanted to see Jesus also
- B. He climbed into a tree
 1. He could not see for the crowd & his stature
 - a. Zacchaeus was short
 - b. He could not see through the crowd
 2. He ran ahead & climbed into a Sycamore tree
 - a. Short person? Not a problem
 - b. He knew his home town
 - c. He knew where a tree grew that he could climb into above the heads of the crowd
 - d. There!! Climb up that Sycamore tree
- C. He was seen of Jesus
 1. Jesus saw Zacchaeus
 - a. Imagine that Jesus would look up into the tree as He passed under the tree.
 - b. Imagine the humor of the situation
 - c. Jesus stops & looks up and the crowd had to stop with Him
 - d. Zacchaeus could not hide

But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. (Mt 9:36)

2. Jesus knew Zacchaeus

Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, [and] I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. (Jer 1:5)

¹ (To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David) O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known *me*. ² Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. ³ Thou compassed my path and my lying down, and art acquainted *with* all my ways. ⁴ For *there is* not a word in my tongue, *but*, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. (Psa 139:1-4)

III. Courage to Serve

A. With joy

1. He made haste
 - a. Zacchaeus climbed down from the tree in a hurry
 - b. Jesus was coming home with him
2. He received Jesus joyfully

- a. Zacchaeus was so happy to be with Jesus
- b. He had Jesus coming for a meal with him

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. (Rev 3:20)

B. With resolve

1. Jewish religious leaders complained about Jesus' actions
2. Jesus decided on strong course of action
3. Jesus never had a problem with mixing & eating with despised people

And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them. (Lk 15:2)

This *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. (1Tim 1:15) – Paul's description of his life before becoming Christian

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: (Rom 3:10)

IV. Compassion to Save

A. Contrite man

1. Contrite means being sorry & apologizing for bad & hurtful actions
2. Zacchaeus professes Christ as Lord
 - a. Zacchaeus called Jesus, "Lord"
 - b. He decided to follow Jesus

For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. (Col 2:9)

He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am? Peter answering said, The Christ of God. (Luk 9:20)

Quote: "You may accept the lofty claims of Jesus. You may take Him as very God. Or else you must reject Him as a miserable, deluded enthusiast. There is really no middle ground. Jesus refuses to be pressed into the mold of a mere religious teacher." — J. Gresham

Machen

3. He shows true repentance
 - a. Restitution means paying back stolen money or returning stolen items back to owner
 - b. Zacchaeus shows by making restitution back to his victims
 - c. Zacchaeus will also give to the poor as well

If a man shall steal an ox, or a sheep, and kill it, or sell it; he shall restore five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep. (Ex 22:1)

B. Clear promise of salvation (verse 9)

1. "Today salvation has come to this house"
2. Jesus considers Zacchaeus to also be a son of Abraham
3. Salvation based on faith

That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. (Gal 3:14)

4. Salvation based on Christ's payment
 - a. Atonement means covering for sin as in example of blood of sacrifice covering sins on the Mercy Seat

¹³ And he (*Aaron*) shall put the incense upon the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that *is* upon the testimony, that he die not: ¹⁴ And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle *it* with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times. (Lev 16:13-14)

¹¹ But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; ¹² Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*. (Heb 9:11-12)

- b. Propitiation means that God turns away His wrath & anger against sinner for their sins

⁹ In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. ¹⁰ Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. (1Jn 4:9-10)

V. Conclusion

A. We must confess our sin

For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Rom 6:23)

B. We must believe on Jesus Christ alone as the payment for our sins

⁹ That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Rom 10:9-10)

⁸ But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. (Rom 5:8-9)

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: (Jn 11:25)