

Luke 19.1-10

"Seek and Save the Lost"

Jesus to Jericho > Where Walls tumbling down in in the days of Joshua
 20 miles SW Jerusalem / 4, 200 ft below Jerusalem / 825 ft below sea
 Founded 8000 yrs ago! One oldest continuing inhabited cities of World
 Palm Springs of Israel > Warm, Dry Climate known Worldwide
 Wealthy Resort for Rich in Winter > Beggars & Tax Collectors Thrive
 2 Men in Jericho > Want to See Jesus & Jesus wants to See Them
 Very Different Men: Poor Blind Beggar & Rich, Powerful Oppressor
 Both end up seeing Jesus > Both See Jesus because Jesus sees them
 Jesus does 2 Impossible Things > Heals Blind Man / Saves Rich man
 Both Receive Salvation at Once: 1 calls in Faith other Openly Repents
 One cries for Mercy > One displays Sovereignty of God in our Salvation

Lk 9-19 Jesus to Jerusalem > He'll give his life as a ransom for many
 Question 10 Chs > Who belongs to Kingdom? True people of God?
 Ch 16 Poor Beggar Lazarus in bosom of Abraham // in Paradise
 Rich Man at whose Gate he used to Beg is in Hell and in Torment
 Ch 17 Samaritan leper receives the healing and the blessing of the Lord
 Ch 18 Little children being accepted into the presence of Jesus
 Rich young ruler Outside, goes away SAD because he loves his STUFF Jesus in Jericho: Blind
 Beggar calls for Mercy > Sight and Salvation...

1. Shameless Sinner

a. Abuse v. 2 "CHIEF tax collector" Tax Collectors Despised by Jews

MESSAGE of JOHN the BAPTIZER to TAX COLLECTORS -

"Don't collect any more than you are required to" Luke 3:13

Because they DID! INCREASED their PAY by INCREASING PAIN!

Collected Money to Support Oppressive Colonial Power

PAID FEE TO ROMANS TO BUY COLLECTION RIGHTS

Regular contact with Gentiles >> CEREMONIALLY UNCLEAN

word TAX COLLECTORS = "sinners" "harlots" and "gentiles"

Rich Man, Zacchaeus: Only found in Luke's Gospel

Tax Collector – HATED like Murderer > Sold out own People
 Predators > Closest thing to 1st C Tax Collector today is Pedophile

Who sells out our children for the sake of their own Pleasures?
 Conventional WISDOM - Zac UNREACHABLE - Too Bad for God

b. Affluence v. 2 "he was rich" = NO NEED FOR GOD

RICH YOUNG RULER CHOSE MONEY INSTEAD OF CHRIST -

18.23 he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth

CHIEF Tax Collector: Skimmed off Top of all Jericho's Tax Collectors

"CHIEF Tax Collector" Other collectors under him - **HE TOOK CUT**

Jericho Port of ENTRY > Tolls – Custom Charges – Caravans – Transport

"Figures do not Lie, but Liars do Figure"

c. Arrogance vs. 3,4 he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree

Middle East – Important Person NOT RUN - CLIMB TREES - for Boys

NO Shame - "Who cares what people think about me?" - FLAGRANT

TEMPTATION FOR THE RICH: Command those who are rich in this present world *not to be arrogant* nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God
 1 Timothy 6:17

Not care PEOPLE'S OPINION > Great DISCIPLE - Become Christ's Fool

SO FAR in LUKE > RICH AND POWERFUL has Always meant LOST

2. Seeking Savior

a Present 5 "Zac hurry & come down, I must stay at your house today"

UNASKED - JESUS STOPS AND TALKS TO ZACCCHAEUS

UNASKED - JESUS offers be GUEST in a SINNER'S HOUSE

NO PRIESTS, RABBI'S, OR RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE IN JERICHO?

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
 Romans 5:8

2.11 Today in town of David a Savior been born to you; he is X the Lord

4.21 Nazareth: "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

23.43 Jesus "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise"

TODAY: Salvation PRESENT NOW, Opportunity to Repent & Believe

TODAY is DAY of SALVATION – NOW is the TIME

Zacc. NO TIME to Clean Up his HOUSE – No Time to Find NEW JOB

Jesus INVITE: COME AS WE ARE - NOT to CLEAN UP OUR ACT

UNASKED - JESUS CHANGES HIS SELFISH HEART

b. Perception Jericho View of Chief Tax Collector: v. 7 a 'sinner'

VIEW OF JESUS: v. 9 a son of Abraham.

Jesus not need man's testimony about man, he knew what was in a man John 2:25

Abraham - IDOL WORSHIPPER BECOMES MAN OF FAITH

Salvation is by Grace - FREE GIFT OF GOD

THERE IS NO PERSON TOO BAD FOR SALVATION

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations
Romans 4.18

Jesus wants to See True Meaning of NAME Zacc = PURE

Jesus stayed away from SIN but always stayed CLOSE to SINNERS

Jesus Respected Sinners but Rejected their SIN > STAYS in Home of Z.

c. Purpose >> Defining Passage of Luke - PRIMARY MISSION

v. 5 Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today."

Luke 2 > Jesus @ 12 "I Must be in my father's house.

Jesus says, do it Now. Not take it under advisement, but do it now.

Make haste, hurry up. Makes House of Zacchaeus, House of Peace

Theme 19.10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Jesus COMES /Salvation Comes, Kingdom of God Comes /King in House

5.32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Luke 18.23-25 "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God"... "Who then can be saved?" Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."

It is clear that tax collectors take on the importance they have in the Gospels precisely because they are such striking examples of the surprising grace that constitutes the very essence of Jesus' message.
Donald Hagner

DAY OF THE LORD HAS COME - "I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me." Isaiah 65:1

d. Power: Persuasive power of Invisible Kingdom

Jewish Religious LEADERS Simple View of WORLD > Zacc is LOST

Jewish Blood but NOT Jewish BEHAVIOR – NOT Good Enough

The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men--robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'
Luke 18.11,12

Z – NOT HUMBLE Tax Collector – CHIEF – HEAD OF TAX MAFIA!

vs. 5,6 when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully.

Salvation not **Just** PERSONAL & PRIVATE = Radical Change

True Justification leads to DOING JUSTICE and PREACHING GRACE

v. 8 Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold."

If there was any doubt Zacchaeus meant what he said, his pocketbook spoke volumes.
Darrell Bock

Receives Jesus, Repays Victims, Restores Just Order - Right NOW

Genuine Belief in Jesus > Visible EVIDENCES of Jesus' KINGDOM

Begins in HEART of Zacc: Extends to Newly Opened Home for Jesus

TURNED FROM SELFISHNESS TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

FROM GREED TO GENEROSITY

Was Mastered by MONEY – Now JESUS is MASTER of his MONEY

Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ...willed that the whole life of believers should be repentance.
Martin Luther, Thesis 1 of 95 Theses, Wittenberg

3. Shock to Society

a. Seeking GET Attention TODAY > Envy Career of INFLUENCERS

Revived Kalahikiola Facebook > get Attention on our Little Church

v. 7 And when they saw it, they all grumbled, “He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.”

STOPS the TRAFFIC in CITY of JERICHO

Repentance SHAKES the whole CORRUPT TAXATION STRUCTURE

IMPACTS the COMMERCIAL World of JERICHO

Important Hwy – Trade Center – IMPACTS Entire LOCAL ECONOMY

Story carried throughout Roman Empire by Spirit-filled author Dr. LUKE

News shaped EUROPE – AMERICAS – All the way to Hawaii in 2025

b. Gospel full of Surprises Begins Old Priest & Wife have SON – JOHN

Young VIRGIN Girl has SON who is Son of DAVID – Son of GOD

1st SERMON Hometown, People MARVEL at Words: Then try to KILL

Dinner Parties w/ Important People – Insults Them – NOT Wash Right

Defies Natural Order – Deaf Hear – Blind See – Lame Walk - Dead Live

Closest Followers No Clear Understanding – Who He is, What’ll Do

Entered City of JERICHO – described by Jews as ‘Little Paradise’

PALM Trees, ROSE Gardens, Grand WINTER Palace, HIPPODROME

Large CROWD filled Streets Jericho to SEE – Jesus: Man of Surprises

PARADE STOPS – Crowd gets SILENT – Jesus stops LOOKS up TREE

LITTLE BIG MAN – Everyone KNOWS – PASSIONATELY HATES

Reeked of Abusive Power, UNBRIDLED Corruption, DECADENCE

Rotten MAN wants SEE JESUS – Surprise!! Jesus wants to SEE HIM!

“Hey HOMEBOY – I’M gonna CHILL in your PAD TONIGHT!”

Shocked City – SILENT – Then MUTTERING, DISGUST Filled Air

Story Center Piece LUKE – Shiny Diamond of SURPRISING GRACE

Theme Verse: Hangs like BANNER over this Jericho CITY-SCAPE

v. 9,10 Jesus “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

c. **Serious** Easy to Get Clicks, Hard to Hold Sustained Concentration

Interest in Jesus growing Stronger Every Year for 2000 yrs > Followers!

1) **Rebellious Tax Collector** – Baddest, Smallest Meanest man in Town

Gospel is for Every Sinner, All Welcome! > None Should Perish!

Do Not Misunderstand Reason we Need to Support Australian Creed

NOT because we Hate Anyone or Want to Keep People OUT of Church

2) **Redeemer who Seeks & Saves** – Hero of Gospel > Loves and Saves

3) **Reception at his House** – Xtianity Not JUST church @ House

Jesus must be LORD of All – 24 / 7 – Meet your Family & Friends – Job!

4) **Repentance is Real** – Equalizes his Embezzlement > AND MORE

5) **Relationship is Forever** v. 9 Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham.

d. **Sovereign** - Imagine if Jesus NOT Stop Front of Z’s TREE

Went home tells Mrs Z – Climbed Tree, Saw Jesus, Passed Right By Me!

Reason Story in Bible > Jesus STOPPED, Jesus CALLED, Jesus SAVED

Reason HAVE Bible > Jesus CAME – Fullness of Time – Sent by Father

Never Met, But Jesus knew his Name > Calls him by that Name

When Jesus reached Spot where Zacchaeus was Jesus needed save him

Zacchaeus's plan see Jesus, but Jesus planned to see & save Zacchaeus

Jesus stops right on Spot > Looks Up > Demands to Go to his House

I must stay in your house this very day, not tomorrow, not another day. Not Waiting for you to

Ask Me > Jesus decided to save Zacchaeus

Jesus calls us to Himself, He Pursues. He will not take no for an answer.

Hound of Heaven > Seeks & Saves the Lost

Rom 9.16 it does not depend on man's desire or effort but on God's mercy

Not because we want Jesus > Jesus first comes to us

To those who believed in his Name, He gave the right to become the children of God, children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision, or a husband's will, but born of God.

John 1.12

Wycliffe Bible Translators Brazil > "JESUS" film MAMIANDE Lang

Many Native Speakers need FILL ROLES of Readers Gospel Characters

Ch 19 ONE MAMIANDE Man not spoken yet – WORST Man in Village

Everyone Considered him Thief – O.K. – 'You read part of Zac on J film'

1st Takes could not read words Properly – "I STOLE" said "HE STOLE"

Movie Premier, Whole Village, 2 Hrs Jesus, END w Grim CROSS/Res

Mamiande Z. stood w TEARS – Confessing Sin and Calling on the Lord

Psalm 51

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, when

Nathan the prophet went to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,

so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation,

and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; build up the walls of Jerusalem;

then will you delight in right sacrifices,

in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar. Amen and Amen.