

Zaccheus

Luke 19:1-10

Zaccheus – Chief Tax Collector

- Who were “tax collectors”? Unscrupulous “Tax Farming” traitors. Luke 3:12-13
- Jesus sought opportunities to teach them (Matthew 9:9-11) and the Jewish leaders didn’t understand why (Matthew 11:19; Luke 5:29-32; 15:1-2).
- Jesus saw them for what they were – sinners who needed to learn and repent.
- How is it that they felt comfortable in coming to Jesus?

Zaccheus –

- Jesus saw in them a heart of humility, willingness to hear and a hunger for truth and forgiveness. Luke 18:9-14
- Zaccheus is an example of this.
- What can we learn from Zaccheus?

There’s more to life than material wealth

- Why did he seek Jesus?
 - Because of the multitude, or what he heard from his peers (Luke 5:27-29; 15:1)
 - If material wealth was everything, would he work so hard to see who He was?
 - His lack of attachment to “things”- Luke 19:8
 - He understood the difference between “treasures in heaven” and “treasures upon earth” – Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:15ff; 18:22; 1 Timothy 6:6-10

Don’t make excuses!

- Large crowd & small in stature.
- Ran on ahead and climbed the tree
- Do we wish to see & know Jesus? Matthew 7:7; John 1:43-46; 4:27-30, 39-42
- No excuses – Luke 14:15-24

It’s the heart that matters and not the outer man.

- Contrast of Saul (1 Samuel 9:1-2) and David (1 Samuel 16:6ff) – * see also Absalom (2 Samuel 14:25).
- Jesus didn’t seek to go to his house because of who he was on the outside ...

Go directly to the divine source of authority

- Zaccheus did not ask others to tell him ... He sought the Lord directly.
- We need to seek God directly. Hebrews 1:1-2; Matthew 17:1-5
- We are responsible for knowing God and His will ourselves. Acts 17:27; Philippians 3:10

Need to overcome all obstacles

- Satan will put obstacles in our way ... how badly do we want to go to heaven?
- "To him who overcomes ..." Revelation 2 & 3
- Zaccheus responded with a sense of urgency ... so must we. Hebrews 4:6-7; Acts 22:16

What true repentance demands

- A change of heart and a change in how he lived.
- No longer for himself. Galatians 2:20; 1 Timothy 6:17ff.
- He must bear fruit. Matthew 3:8; 13:23; John 15:1-8
- He needed to make things right. 2 Corinthians 7:10-11

Be a man or woman of action

- He "jumped" at the opportunity to host Jesus.
- He obeyed without delay and with great eagerness.
- Will we be a "doer"? James 1:22; 1 Peter 1:13