

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE
JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 19:1-10

TAPE NUMBER SM-678 MARCH 15, 2009

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**LITTLE MAN, BIG SIN, BIGGER FAITH
(TO SHORT, TO BAD, TODAY)**

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,
THE SON OF GOD, SON OF MAN, SAVOIR OF ALL MANKIND*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Transformation, Salvation, Hope, Fulfillment,

Introduction to the Text;

Luke 19:1-10

The Theme and Textual Summation of the Passage

Luke 19:1:10

Then *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho. :2 Now behold, *there* was a man named Zacchaeus who was a **chief tax collector**, and he was rich. :3 And he **sought** to see who *Jesus* was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. :4 So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. :5 And when *Jesus* came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "**Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay (why?) at your house.**" :6 So he made haste and came down, and **received Him joyfully**. :7 But when they saw *it*, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." :8 Then Zacchaeus **stood** and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." :9 And *Jesus* said to him, "**Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; :10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.**"

One of the Most Beloved Stories

This is the Famed Old Story of an Encouraging Encounter.

Between Zacchaeus and Jesus Christ

“The Zacchaeus Song”

If you can picture this;

Jericho was known for its roses and its palm trees. and its' balsome wood trees and its' sycamore trees. the city, belongs to the “West Bank” now occupied by arab refugees it still one of the oldest cities on earth.

The Star of the Event is a man named Zacchaeus,

history has him as short, probably stout, wealthy, Jewish man who has decided if you cant beat Rome, you might as well join em' (the chief tax collector of Jericho)

If Reincarnation were Possible – He’s be Danny DeVito Today

\$\$\$ but make no mistake about it. \$\$\$

Danny Devito, I mean Zacchaeus was head of one of the 3 largest roman custom offices in all of occupied Israel, Jericho being the most lucrative.

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LITTLE MAN, BIG SIN, BIGGER FAITH

1.) Are you to short to see Jesus ?

v.1-3

Luke 19:1:10

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. :2 Now behold, there was a man named **Zacchaeus** who was a “**chief” tax collector**, and he was rich. :3 And he **sought to see who Jesus was**, but could not because of the crowd,

for he was of short stature.

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ARE YOU TOO SHORT TO SEE JESUS ?

1a.) What if the Lord **creates an opportunity**

Verse 1

Then Jesus **entered** and **passed through** Jericho...

we need to be careful that we don't "pass through" this little gem !

The Nature of Jesus Christ - We Know From Scripture

that every word Jesus spoke was by the Holy Spirit and that every work he did was ordained by the Father. we also know that every encounter that he had was a divine appointment.

Rom. 11:34

"For who has known the mind of the LORD?"

already we know this, the from the Galilee region to Jerusalem, Jesus has already taken the least direct route...

Why? - - What if the Lord is creating opportunities for what I will Call "God-Encounters"

In Most Cases God Encounters
come in and thru events that we're not expecting.

God Encounters Are Happening in Life Encounters:

- it could be by the death of child or by a promotion in job.
- it could happen in the theater of war or at kitchen table.

- the truth is – you can never quiet figure out when, where and how.

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ARE YOU TOO SHORT TO SEE JESUS ?

1b.) What if the Lord **knows everything**

Verse 2

Now behold, there was a man named **Zacchaeus** who was a “**chief**” **tax collector**, and he was rich.

the roman tax collector

usually he was a native to the land in which Rome occupied. these were “traitors” or “turncoats” despised and hated by their fellow Jews. he would have been hired to tax you on your income, your travels, your possession, your everything.

the Obama tax collector

(remember church, there are only two people in the world who can take what’s yours, a thief or a politician) the more taxes, the bigger the thief, or politician.

The Bible says that God knows

our existence, our motives, our thoughts
and our whereabouts...

Psa. 139:3

You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are **familiar** with all my ways.

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ARE YOU TOO SHORT TO SEE JESUS ?

1c.) What if the Lord **sees you in the crowd**

Verse 3

1c.) What if the Lord **sees you in the crowd**

Verse 3

And Zacchaeus **sought to see *who Jesus was***,
but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature.

seek / sought ζητέω zeteo, dzay-teh'-o;
it means to "desire after strongly, to endeavor, to go after, to pursue."

I have no doubt that Zacchaeus had heard about
Jesus Christ far and wide over the years...

(1) Jesus had been accused of being a friend of losers.

Matt. 11:19

The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!"

(2) What's was also highly possible ?

the disciples had become pretty well known by association to Christ.
one of those disciples was a Jewish man by the name of Matthew Levi.
before he met Jesus Christ he was a "class, anyone, anyone, a tax-collector !!!

**I Believe That Before Zacchaeus
Ever saw Jesus, Jesus saw Zacchaeus.**

**An Example of the Omniscience's of Jesus Christ =
John 1:48**

Nathaniel said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

Zack Wants to See Jesus

but he's coming up short – he cant see him!

Heb. 11:6

But without faith (belief in action) it is impossible to please God, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who **diligently seek** Him.

ἐκζητέω ekzeteo, ek-zay-teh'-o;

to search out, to investigate, to lust after... to seek out someone or something to release worship

Are you really Interested to See Who Jesus Christ Is ?
(the answer might surprise you)

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LITTLE MAN, BIG SIN, BIGGER FAITH

2.) Are you **to bad** to be seen with Jesus ? v.4-7

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ARE YOU **TO BAD TO BE SEEN WITH JESUS ?**

2a.) Then why would the Lord **want to lift you up**

Verse 4-5a

:4 So he **ran** ahead **and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see** Jesus, for He was going to pass that way. :5 And when Jesus **came to the place, He looked up** and saw Zacchaeus, and said...

Verse 4a

we have no idea what had gone in this man's life to cause him to become (1) humbly enough to go outside of his palatial house, (2) he was excited to see Jesus (3) enough to run in public and to (4) to scale a tree.

**If God Didn't Want Anything to With You,
Then why would the Lord want to lift you up...**

it was the Lord who **came by his way**
it was the Lord who **provided the tree**
it was the Lord who **stopped and looked up**

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

1John 2:2

And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

Have you ever thought about

what Jesus Christ Got Out of Dying on the Cross for the Sins of the World?

Heb. 12:2

looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

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ARE YOU **TO BAD TO BE SEEN WITH JESUS ?**

2b.) Then why would the Lord **want to invite Himself**

Verse 5b

and said... to him, "**Zacchaeus**, make haste and come down, for today **I must stay** (why?) at your house."

and said to him, "**Zacchaeus**

John 10:3

His sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep **by name** and leads them out. (or down from a tree)

Why **Must** Jesus stay at Zacchaeus' House ?

...because no body else world ?

...because Jesus needed something Zacchaeus' had ?

I Think For This Reason;

Because there was a **divine intersection** at that **sycamore tree**.

and in your life,
there are “**divine intersections**” when God is there !

Open Your Eyes Man – Look Around You

Way Back in The Old Testament – Jacob Had an Encounter with God
that would change his life forever...

Gen. 28:16-19

Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “**Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it.**” :17 And he was afraid and said, “**How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!**” :18 Then Jacob rose early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put at his head, set it up as a pillar, and poured oil on top of it.
:19 And he called the name of that place **Bethel**;

Here in The New Testament – We Can Have an Encounter with God
that will change our lives forever...

Eph. 1:4-6

just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, :5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, :6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

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ARE YOU **TO BAD** TO BE SEEN WITH JESUS ?

2c.) Then why would the Lord **want to be seen with you**

Verse 6-7

So he made haste and came down, and **received Him joyfully.**
:7 But when they saw *it*, they all complained, saying, *“He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.”*

??? Have You Ever Earned a Trophy or a Gold Metal ???
and “Z” **received Jesus joyfully**

Joy is a Result of Salvation.
you cannot **fake joy**, you cannot **imitate it**. – the world **does not have joy**.

True Christians Have the Joy of the Lord.
False Christians Look for Happiness

John 15:11

“These things I have spoken to you, = **The Word of God**
that My joy may remain in you, and *that your joy may be full.*

Verse 7

But when they saw *it*, they all complained, saying,
“He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.”

On Earth, There will Always be Party Poopers.
these are the sin-sniffing, fault-finding legalists that Infect Every Church.

**Immature Believers, People Cannot fathom the Grace of God
so that attack it. they mock it, they legalize It.**

vs.

*“He has gone to be a guest
with a man who is a sinner.”*

Isn't That What's Heaven is All About ?

John 14:2-3

In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. :3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there you may be also.*

Can I ask you this Question,
if Jesus should show up today, would he want to be
a guest at your house ?

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LITTLE MAN, BIG SIN, BIGGER FAITH

3.) Are you Today ready for Jesus ? v.8-10

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ARE YOU TODAY READY FOR JESUS ?

3a.) Because it's time to be honest

Verse 8

Then Zacchaeus **stood** and said to the Lord,
*"Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything
from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."*

His Worldview had Been Corrected, Adjusted

what implied here is that Zacchaeus was either (a) holding money and things in his hand or he was (b) handing out his money and things to those around.

He Had a Total Heart, Mind, Worldview Conversion

John 1:12-13

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: :13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

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ARE YOU **TODAY** READY FOR JESUS ?

3b.) Because it's time to **be changed**

Verse 9

And Jesus said to him, “**Today salvation** has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham

Listen Carefully to This;

“salvation is always available as long as you're alive to receive it. it is always available until it's taken away. it's absolutely free but it will cost you everything.”

When The Opportunity Comes
a thought / a conversation / a word / a message / an experience
Seize It Without Delay or Hesitation

Rev. 3:20

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

based upon that verse, **do you have the choice to open or keep shut your heart?**

I am Happy to be a Son of Abraham

Galatians 3:11-14

“...for no one is justified by the law in the sight of God *is evident*, for *“the just shall live by faith.”* :12 Yet the law is not of faith, but *“the man who does them shall live by them.”* :13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, *“Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”*), :14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive The Promise of the Holy Spirit through faith.
= Salvation.

1John 4:14

And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.

1John 2:22-23

Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. :23 Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also.

Rom. 2:28-29

For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; :29 but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.

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ARE YOU **TODAY** READY FOR JESUS ?

3c.) Because it's time to **be rescued**

Verse 10

for the Son of Man has **come**
to **seek** and to **save** that which was **lost**.”

I want to know more about this conversation.
what did they talk about. what was told to Zacchaeus ?

“Danny Devito, You Wont Ever Have to Get Up in a Tree Again
because within a couple of weeks, I'm going to get on a Tree for for you.

Gal. 3:13

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “**Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree**”),

Can you think of anybody who's beyond God's reach?
the truth is you cant – you would be wrong.

1. can God save **Barak Obama**, Yes
2. what about **Obama Bin Laden**, Yes
3. can he save self righteous **grand father**, yes
4. what about a cool young **teenager**, yes
5. will He save **you**, I'm not sure

Note These 4 Key Factors

(1 - **come**)

that Jesus Christ has come from heaven to earth for us

(2 - **seek**)

Jesus Christ came because He was seeking us out
(3 - **save**)
His purpose for coming was to rescue us from hell
(4 - **lost**)
And He comes to those who cannot save themselves.

Verse 10

for the Son of Man has **come**
to **seek** and to **save** that which was **lost**.”

seek / sought ζητέω zeteo, dzay-teh'-o;
it means to “desire after strongly, to endeavor, to go after, to pursue.”

1John 4:19

We love Him because He first loved us.

exactly the same word found back in verse 3 about the Z-Man...

End of Study