**Salvation Came To His House**

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday June 10th, 2018

Text: Luke 19:1-10

# **Intro**

1. Ephesians 3:20-21: God is “able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think…”
   1. “Far more abundantly” is *G5228 huper [hooper],* and means, “Super Abundant!”
   2. It is “more than, superior to” whatever we ask or think!
2. Luke 19:10: Jesus came to “seek and save the lost.”
   1. Seek = *G2212 zēteō [dzay-teh'-o]:* to seek (literally or figuratively); desire.
   2. I Timothy 2:3-4: God “desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”
3. Hebrews 11:6.
   1. “Without faith it is impossible to please God.” One must also “diligently seek” Him.
   2. “Seek” (NKJ: “Diligently Seek”) = *G1567 ekzēteō [ek-zay-teh'-o]:* to search out, that is, (figuratively) investigate, crave, demand, seek after (carefully, diligently).
4. God does more than we ask or think, desires (seeks) man to be saved, but man must “diligently seek Him to be rewarded! *(God wants to reward!)*
   1. God rewards those who “diligently seek” Him! *(Not enough to “claim” to believe Him)*
   2. “Lost” is perhaps the most frightening word in the Bible! - “Lost” is used in God’s Word to describe people in sin *(II Cor. 4:3: “perishing).*
   3. There is cause for celebration and rejoicing when the “lost” become “found.” *(Lk. 15) -* The angels in Heaven rejoice over one sinner who repents – Lk. 15:7, 10
5. We see all of this played out in a “lost” man who diligently sought to see Jesus! (He desired to see Him so badly he climbed a Sycamore Tree to do so!)
   1. Lk. 19:1-10: Zaccheus was a chief tax collector (“lost”) who climbed a tree to see Jesus.
   2. We see in *vs. 10* Christ’s mission here on earth: “To seek and save the lost.”
   3. He rewards those who “diligently seek” Him! (Heb. 11:6)
   4. He does more than we ask or think (Eph. 3:20): Zaccheus just wanted to see Jesus, but Jesus wanted to see him too, and meet him, and visit with him in his house!
6. Salvation came to the house of the man who climbed a tree to see Jesus!

# **Zaccheus**

### Good Points:

* 1. Wanted to see Jesus – wanted to see who He was. *(Vs. 3)*
  2. Would not be turned from his purpose.
  3. He overcame his obstacles – Lk. 19:3: The crowds, his small stature (short)
     1. He could’ve turned around and went home right then, but he was determined *(diligent – Heb. 11:6)*
  4. Ran and climbed a sycamore tree – Lk. 19:4
     1. He chose instead to climb into a Sycamore tree to get a better view.

### Indifferent Points:

1. Rich – didn’t make him good or bad *(Vs. 2):* I Tim. 6:10, 17-19: “Love” of money is evil.
2. Short – didn’t make him good or bad *(Vs. 3) – Gives hope to short people everywhere!*
3. Looked down on by others (Vs. 7): Whether true or not, he was prejudged by his job!
4. He was a Jew (Vs. 9) and a chief tax collector (Vs. 2) who worked for the Romans gathering taxes from his fellow Jews who hated paying taxes to their oppressive rulers.
   1. Jewish tax collectors were considered the scum on the bottom of the sandals of the scum of the earth – traitors to their own people!
   2. In some cases and places they were considered lower than Gentiles (dogs).
5. His job didn’t make him good or bad – Matthew was an apostle and a tax collector! (Mt. 9:9)

### Bad Points:

* 1. May have become rich at the cost of others. (Vs. 8)
     1. This was one of the reasons they hated tax collectors: they were allowed to charge more than what was owed and keep a little extra for themselves.
     2. Zaccheus may have lived up to their hatred and distrust.
  2. May have been uncharitable. *(Vs. 8)*
     1. Sounds like he had not given to the poor before, and is now vowing to do so.
  3. Was lost *(Luke 19:10).*
     1. Jesus went to the Jews first, and here is one of the fruits of His efforts.
     2. A man who was lost became found! *(A “child of Abraham” was a Jew)*

1. Zaccheus was a “lost” man *diligently* *seeking* to be found!

# **Zaccheus: His Great Change**

### Began with curiosity (wanted to see Who He is) – Lk. 19:3

* 1. No interest = No salvation. *If don’t know one’s lost, don’t need a savior, right?*
  2. Indifference is a curse!

### Received Jesus gladly – Lk. 19:5-6

* 1. Out of everyone in the crowd, Jesus wanted to see Zaccheus (19:5: looked up), and to meet him, and stay with him at his house! (Eph. 3:20-21: Super-Abundant!)
  2. Zaccheus “received Him gladly.”

### His Repentance – Lk. 19:8

1. “Stood and said” (NKJV) = A public declaration.
2. Resolved to be charitable
   1. This is a problem for some rich people: The Rich Young Ruler (Luke 18:18-23)
   2. He too was a “lost” man seeking to be saved (also knew the Scriptures).
   3. He went away “grieved” to give to the poor because he owned much property – he “diligently sought” Jesus but was disappointed with what he found.
   4. Zaccheus was blessed with material wealth and resolved to give half of what he owned to the poor *(Contrast with Rich Young Ruler).*
3. Vowed to make restitution fourfold
   * 1. Ex 22:1: Requirement of a thief was to pay four or five times the worth.
     2. Zaccheus had knowledge of the Scriptures – had he stolen and admitted it here?
     3. He had the right heart, a charitable heart *(Contrast with Rich Young Ruler).*
     4. Eph. 4:28: Thieves, once converted, are to steal no longer! They are to work and to share (be charitable!)
4. He was a “lost” man desiring to be saved, and when found he accepted the terms for salvation!

# **Zaccheus: Salvation Came To His House**

### Pronounced by the Lord – Lk. 19:9

* 1. “Salvation has come to this house.” *Wouldn’t we want to hear such a pronouncement?*

### The terms:

1. Forsake old sin.
2. Resolve to do good – Is. 55:7: God pardons the wicked who turns from his way.

### Lessons we can learn today from the man who climbed a tree to see Jesus:

* + - 1. We need to seek Jesus and let nothing get in our way of being “found” – Js. 4:8 (Heb. 11:6)
      2. Once “found” accept the terms and obey the gospel – Acts 2:38; 8:36-38; 22:16
      3. When we sin we need to repent – I Jn. 1:9
         1. This man was of the house of Abraham (a Jew) and yet was “lost.”
         2. Repentance involves restitution or amends if we have wronged someone or their property – Luke 3:8; Acts 26:19-20 (“Fruits of repentance”)

1. He was a “lost” man who became “found” and “salvation came to his house!”

# **Conclusion**

1. Anyone can be saved who will pay the price: Obedience to the gospel! (Heb. 5:9)
2. It is scary to be lost – Great rejoicing when one who is lost is found! (Men and angels rejoice!)
3. Zaccheus was lost (Luke 19:10) but didn’t let obstacles or distractions get in the way of his Savior.
   1. He just wanted to see Jesus (Luke 19:3)
   2. He climbed up into a tree to get a better view and was rewarded beyond what he thought by Jesus taking notice and becoming a guest at his house (Luke 19:5-6; Eph. 3:20-21).
   3. God rewards “those who diligently seek Him” (NKJV Heb. 11:6).
4. Think of how many “lost” there were in the crowd on that day and how many easily saw Jesus but turned away at His teachings, like the *Rich Young Ruler* *(Luke 18:18-23),* and stayed “lost!”
5. Do you seek after the Lord?
   1. Zaccheus let nothing get in his way! *(Heb. 12:1: “Lay aside every encumbrance…”)*
6. Do you want to see Jesus?
   1. Zaccheus overcame obstacles to see Him! *(Heb. 12:2-3: “Fixing our eyes on Jesus…”)*
7. Salvation comes to the house of those who *diligently seek* God and obey Him! *(Rewards eternal life – Heb. 5:9; 11:6; Eph. 3:20-21: Above and beyond what we think or ask!)*
8. If not a Christian, you are lost. Repent and be baptized, and walk with Him in new life!
9. If a Christian with sin in your life, “lay aside the sin that entangles!” Repent!
10. Whatever your requests, come forward ***NOW*** and let them be known while we stand and sing.