

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 19:1-10

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX-677 MARCH 15, 2009

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

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

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

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Transformation, Salvation, Hope, Fulfilment

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, its palm trees, its balsam wood trees, and its sycamore trees. The city belongs to the “West Bank” now occupied by Arab refugees. It is still one of the oldest cities on earth.

The Star of the Event is a man named Zacchaeus,
history has him as a short, probably stout, wealthy, Jewish man who has decided if you can't beat Rome, you might as well join em' (the chief tax collector of Jericho)

If Reincarnation were Possible – He'd be Danny DeVito Today

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

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

LITTLE MAN, BIG SIN, BIGGER FAITH

1.) Are you too short to see Jesus?

v.1-3

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.

1a.) What if the Lord creates an opportunity

v.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.

Romans 11:34

“For who has known the mind of the LORD?”

already we know this, 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 happen by the death of a child or by a promotion in a job.
 - it could happen in the theater of war or at the kitchen table.
- the truth is – you can never quite figure out when, where and how.

ARE YOU TOO SHORT TO SEE JESUS?

1b.) What if the Lord knows everything

v.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 possessions, 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...

Psalm 139:3

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

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

v.3

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

seek / sought zhte÷w 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.

Matthew 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 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, a tax-collector!!!”

I Believe That Before Zacchaeus
Everybody saw Jesus, Jesus saw Zacchaeus.

An Example of the Omniscience 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 can’t see Him!

Hebrews 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.

ejkzhte÷w 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)

LITTLE MAN, BIG SIN, BIGGER FAITH

2.) Are you too bad to be seen with Jesus?

v.4-7

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

v.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...

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

**If God Didn't Want Anything to do 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.

1 John 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?

Hebrews 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.

ARE YOU TOO BAD TO BE SEEN WITH JESUS?

2b.) Then why would the Lord want to invite Himself v.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 nobody else would?

...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...

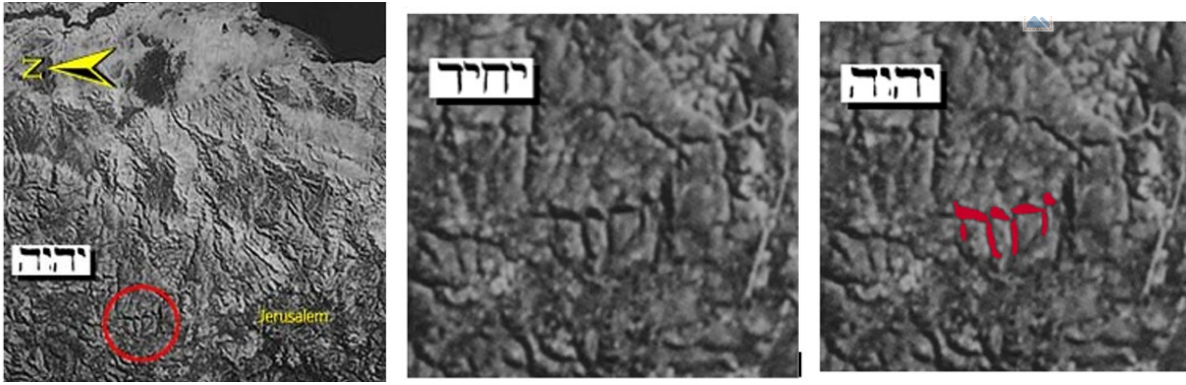
Genesis 28:16-19

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...

Ephesians 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.

ARE YOU TOO BAD TO BE SEEN WITH JESUS?

2c.) Then why would the Lord want to be seen with you v.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 Medal???

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 they 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?

LITTLE MAN, BIG SIN, BIGGER FAITH

3.) Are you Today ready for Jesus?

v.8-10

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

v.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 is 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.

ARE YOU TODAY READY FOR JESUS?

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

Revelation 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.

1 John 4:14

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

1 John 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.

Romans 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.

ARE YOU TODAY READY FOR JESUS?

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

v.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 Won't Ever Have to Get Up in a Tree Again
because within a couple of weeks, I'm going to get on a Tree for you.

Galatians 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 can't – you would be wrong.

1. can God save **Barak Obama**, Yes
2. what about **Osama Bin Laden**, Yes
3. can He save a self-righteous **grandfather**, 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 zhte÷w zeteo, dzay-teh'-o;

it means to “desire after strongly, to endeavor, to go after, to pursue.”

1 John 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