

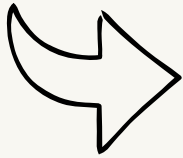
"The half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." (v. 8b)

ZACCHAEUS' REPENTANCE VINDICATES JESUS.

He demonstrates Jesus has transformed him into the kind of person the Old Testament said God was bringing the kingdom for - the repentant.

"Today salvation has come to this house since he also is a son of Abraham." (v. 9)

Knowing the Old Testament we expect when salvation comes that it would be for Abraham's descendants. But what does it mean to be a son of Abraham? It's not primarily about race. It's about faith. He believed God's promise about the Messiah no matter how things looked at the moment just the way Abraham did!



GOD'S PLAN HAS NEVER BEEN TO PROVIDE SALVATION FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE PROVEN THEY DESERVE IT BUT FOR THOSE WHO KNOW THEY NEED IT!

THE SALVATION THAT JESUS CAME TO PROVIDE IS FOR THOSE WHO TRUST GOD'S PROMISES NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY HAVE FAILED AND MESSED UP EVEN WITH THE RESOURCES GOD HAS GIVEN THEM IF THEY WILL JUST COME IN CHILDLIKE FAITH.

YOU CAN BE 100 PERCENT SURE OF THAT...

Because this is a big part of how the Bible says Jesus accomplishes His mission!

"FOR THE SON OF MAN CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST." (V. 10)

"THE PEOPLE THE SON OF MAN SEEKS"

LUKE 19:1-10

THE BOOK OF LUKE IS PROVING WHAT HAPPENED TO JESUS IS FULFILLING OLD TESTAMENT PROMISES ABOUT HOW GOD IS PROVIDING SALVATION AND ESTABLISHING HIS KINGDOM

...BUT SOMETIMES IT SEEMS LIKE LUKE IS SAYING HE'S DOING IT PRIMARILY FOR THE POOR.

[LUKE 1:51-53; LUKE 4:18; LUKE 6:20,24; LUKE 12:15; LUKE 16:11, LUKE 18:24]

**SO, WHAT ABOUT THE WEALTHY?
CAN THEY BE PART OF THE KINGDOM?**



"And behold, there was a man called by the name of Zaccheus, he was a chief tax collector and he was rich" (v.2)

- "Behold" = pay attention
- "Zaccheus" = pure; innocent
- "chief" = important; high rank; a position of authority
- "tax collector" = people who took money from Jewish people to give to Rome
- "rich" = chief tax collectors were normally pretty rich so this is Luke's way of singling him out. This man was really rich.

"...And he was seeking to see who Jesus was." (v.3)

So here's a rich ruler who became wealthy in one of the worst ways you could but somehow he hears about Jesus and wants to see who He was.



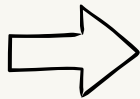
BUT, DOES JESUS WANT TO SEE HIM? THAT'S THE QUESTION.

"...but on account of the crowd he could not because he was small in stature." (v.3b)

- **"but he could not"** = Just like the blind beggar in Luke 18: 35-43, Zaccheus is trying to see Jesus and the crowd is stopping him from being able to.
- **"small in stature"** = Could literally mean "little in height" or "little in years." Here it means "little in height" but should make us think of what Jesus said about "little children" (Remember Luke 18:16-17!)

"...he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree, for he was about to pass by that way." (v.4)

- **"run"** = Back then, grown men didn't run. It looks like something a child would do.
- **"climbed up into a tree"** = It's one childlike move on top of other.



HERE IS A MAN WHO IS WEALTHY AND WICKED AND YET HE DOESN'T APPROACH JESUS LIKE THE RICH RULER BUT LIKE A CHILD...

- ✓ like the rich young ruler
- ✓ like the blind beggar
- ✓ like the little children

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

- **"when Jesus came to the place"** = deliberate. From the moment he entered Jericho He was purposefully trying to get to this sycamore tree.
- **"He looked up"** = Jesus saw him! Jesus is the one seeking Zaccheus.
- **"said to him, 'Zaccheus...'"** = Jesus knows his name. Zaccheus doesn't know who Jesus is but that doesn't matter because Jesus knows his name!
- **"hurry and come down"** = sense of urgency.
- **"must"** = necessity. This is important! It is a divine necessity. This is part of Jesus' purpose for being here on earth.
- **"stay at your house"** = fellowship; relationship; picture of being part of the kingdom of God.

Jesus is saying "I'm the one bringing the kingdom of God and I want you there."



BUT THE STORY DOESN'T END THERE...

"And when they saw it, they all grumbled." (v.7)

- **"they"** = the crowd watching
- **"grumbled"** = this is the second time Luke has used this particular word. (Luke 5:30). And both times they are grumbling about the same thing, that Jesus came to seek and save the lost.

"He has gone to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." (v. 7b)

Our sinfulness might make us wonder if Jesus wants to save people like us. The fact that Jesus wants to save people like us caused people to wonder about Jesus.



"And Zaccheus stood and said to the Lord, 'Behold.' (v. 8)

- **"Lord"** = master; He is acknowledging something about who Jesus is.