

## Zacchaeus

03/21/10

### **Text:**

Luke 19:1-10

### **Thesis:**

Salvation came to the house of Zacchaeus and salvation can come to you also.

### **Discussion:**

#### **I) Who was a Tax Collector?**

- a) Bought the right to collect taxes from the Romans.
- b) Had the judicial power of the Romans as support.
- c) Seen as a Traitor by his own people.
- d) The Economy in Jericho
  - 1) Rich with the trade of Balsam.
  - 2) Balsam is a broad term describing fragrant oils from various plants that had medicinal uses.
- e) Who was Zacchaeus?
  - 1) Chief of Tax Collectors for the area. (Pyramid approach)
  - 2) Did not appear to regard the Jewish tradition as he climbed a Sycamore Tree.

#### **II) The Incident at Jericho**

- a) The city was all buzzing.
  - 1) There was usually a buzz in the city over travelers on the way to Jerusalem for the feast.
  - 2) That Jewish Rabbi was coming to town on His way to Jerusalem.
  - 3) Luke 19:1
- b) The Zacchaeus encounter.
  - 1) Luke 19:2-3
  - 2) Luke 19:4
  - 3) Luke 19:5-6
  - 4) Luke 19:7
  - 5) Luke 19:8
  - 6) Luke 19:9-10
- c) What about us?
  - 1) Do we realize, REALLY REALIZE, our sinfulness before God?
  - 2) Do we whisper to our own consciences that what we have done is really not that bad?
  - 3) Do we really believe that what we have done has hurt God and smells of the stench of Hell?
  - 4) Do we spend our time justifying what we do in order not to be a peculiar people and be accepted by our culture?

#### **III) Symbolism**

- a) Zacchaeus
  - 1) Means pure
  - 2) Actions were the opposite
- b) Desire to see Jesus
  - 1) Those who are materialistic always are lacking.
  - 2) Being wealthy, could Jesus fill the final void?
- c) Sycamore Tree

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- 1) God's Creation
- 2) Considered Unclean
- 3) Fruit (figs) used to feed pigs.
- 4) Zacchaeus (The Pure) is in the midst of the Sycamore (Unpure) Tree.
- 5) While Zacchaeus sat upon it's limbs, the Sycamore tree bore the weight of a sinner.
  - (i) Jesus the sin-less and pure Savior was ultimately hung up on a tree.
  - (ii) That tree bore the weight of a world of sinners.
- d) Repentance works Reformation
  - 1) Some will ridicule
  - 2) Some will openly distrust
  - 3) Some will clamour your wasting your time for soon you will be back like us.

### IV) Application

- a) Jesus called Zacchaeus by name.
- b) Jesus knows your name and your behavior.
  - 1) He knows what your lunch plans are...
  - 2) He knows what you'll be doing tomorrow at home, at work or at school.
- c) Jesus is calling to you, "Come down from the perch of justification and sin right now because I want to stay with you."

### Conclusion

1. It's time to really become a Christian and let Jesus rule in my heart.
2. It's time to quit justifying and repent of sin.
3. It's time to have sin washed away.