

Zacchaeus -The Other Rich Ruler

LUKE 19:1-10

LUKE 19:10

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

This is the theme of the gospel of Luke, it's the theme of the Bible, and it's the theme of every Christian's life. 1 TIMOTHY 1:15-17 "The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen."

TOM SCHREINER

"We see in this text that God can do the impossible, such as saving those like Zacchaeus, who was enslaved to riches."

The degree to which you see your own salvation story as miraculous will be the degree to which you will believe that other impossible sinners can be saved.

Miracle One: Zacchaeus eagerly seeks Jesus.

Zacchaeus is eagerly seeking to see Jesus because Jesus is first eagerly seeking Zacchaeus.

LUKE 19:1-4



LUKE 19:1-4

"He (Jesus) entered Jericho and was passing through. And behold there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and he was rich. He was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way."

 "Zacchaeus may not have been tall in stature, but his biggest problem was that he was short on godliness. PHILIP RYKEN Most tax collectors were sinners in those days, but Zacchaeus was more of a sinner than most – he was the kingpin of the Jericho tax cartel."
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"Jesus is seeking Zacchaeus. Jesus supernaturally knows Zacchaeus' name, underscoring his divine intention to save him."

"For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written, 'None is righteous. No, not one; no one understands. No one seeks for God."

It didn't start with a felt need.

It started with a determined and gracious Savior.

THE THINGS THAT KEEP US FROM SEEKING CHRIST Religious Pride Unbelief Wealth Familiarity Spiritual abuse Public Shame Racial alienation Disease Death False Doctrine Demonic Oppression

What is keeping you from seeking Jesus?

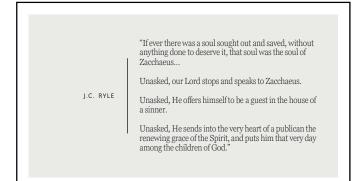
Miracle Two: Zacchaeus joyfully receives Jesus.

Zacchaeus joyfully received Jesus into his house because Jesus had already decided to welcome Zacchaeus to Himself.

LUKE 19:5-6



"And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I <u>must stay</u> at your house today.' So, he hurried and came down and received him joyfully."



LUKE 15:2 "And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

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"Jesus was a friend of sinners not because he winked at sin, ignored sin, or enjoyed light-hearted revelry with those engaged in immorality. Jesus was a friend of sinners in that he came to save sinners and was very pleased to welcome sinners who were open to the gospel, sorry for their sins, and on their way to putting their faith in Him."

ROMANS 15:7

"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."

JOHN 1:12

"But to all who did <u>receive</u> <u>him</u>, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." What is keeping you from joyfully receiving Jesus?

Miracle Three: Zacchaeus gladly gives up his pride and his possessions.

Zacchaeus was willing to repent and to give up his riches for Christ because Christ was willing to enter the poverty and shame of his sin for his salvation.

LUKE 19:7-10



PHILIP RYKEN

"Only God could do such an impossible thing as bring a rich little thief to repentance. He needed Jesus to come seeking to save him. The same grace is now available to us through the cross."

PHILIPPIANS 3:7-8	"But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss, for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake, I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish that I may gain Christ."
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What is keeping you from you giving up everything for Jesus?