

“The Seeking Savior”

Luke 19:1-10

Pastor John Miller

I. Introduction

- A. Charles Spurgeon called on a young student to give an extemporaneous sermon on Zacchaeus
 - 1. Zacchaeus was of little stature, and so am I
 - 2. Zacchaeus was up a tree, and so am I
 - 3. Zacchaeus came down, and so will I
- B. It's a story we all love
 - 1. The key verse (v. 10) is the key to Luke's gospel
 - 2. Jesus' divine mission and the reason for His incarnation were to seek and save lost sinners
 - 3. (Matthew 1:21)
 - 4. (1 Timothy 1:15)
- C. There are four sections or movements

II. Zacchaeus is Seeking Jesus (Luke 19:1-4)

- A. The context or setting of the story
- B. “There was a man named Zacchaeus, but he was anything but righteous (v. 2)
 - 1. “He was the chief among the Publicans” (v. 2)
 - 2. He was the head tax collector
 - 3. “He was rich” (v. 2)
 - 4. (Luke 18:25-27)
 - 5. All things are possible with God
 - 6. No one would ever think Zacchaeus could or would be saved (he was lost)
 - 7. “And he sought to see Jesus for who He was” (v. 3)
- C. Why?
 - 1. Perhaps he had seen the change in the life of his fellow tax collectors, Levi or Matthew
 - a) Perhaps he heard that Jesus was a friend of publicans and sinners
 - 2. Perhaps it was the emptiness of his life
 - a) Life without Jesus is empty (made to know God)
 - 3. Perhaps he was looking for real love
 - 4. Perhaps he was simply tired of his sin
 - a) Jesus said “come to me all ye...”
- D. He wanted to know who Jesus was (v. 3)
 - 1. Do you know who Jesus is?
- E. Zacchaeus could not see Jesus (v. 3)
 - 1. Two reasons
 - a) Because of the crowd (v. 3)
 - b) Because he was of little stature (v. 3)
- F. Zacchaeus did two unbecoming things for a man of his position and in that culture
 - 1. “He ran” (v. 4)

2. "He climbed a tree" (v. 4)
3. Zacchaeus came seeking Jesus
4. He came in humility and sincerity
5. We must come as a child
6. "...ye shall seek me and find me" (Jeremiah 29:13)

III. Jesus Was Seeking Zacchaeus (Luke 19:5-6)

- A. Zacchaeus thought he was seeking Jesus, but Jesus was really seeking him
 1. Jesus said, "you have not chosen me, but I have chosen you"
- B. "And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and saw him (v. 5)
- C. "Jesus called him by name" (v. 5)
- D. "Make haste and come down for today I must abide in your house" (vv. 5-6)
 1. A divine mandate
 2. Jesus invites Himself
 3. Does God seek me, or do I seek Him?
 - a) It's both
 4. Lost sheep, lost coin, lost son (Chapter 15)
 5. Zacchaeus received him joyfully (v. 6)
 - a) Have you received Him joyfully?
 - b) "But as many as receive Him..." (John 1:12)
 - c) How? By faith
 - 1) (Ephesians 2:8-9)
 - 2) (John 3:16)
 6. Jesus is seeking you
 - a) But you must receive Him

IV. Zacchaeus Was Transformed (Luke 19:7-8)

- A. How the crowd took offense (v. 7)
 1. The truth is, we are all sinners
 2. "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23)
- B. How Zacchaeus was changed (v. 8)
 1. A truly saved person experiences a changed life
 2. We are not saved by good works
 3. Knowing Jesus made his money insignificant
 4. Zacchaeus had a new heart
 - a) Life
 - b) Love
 - c) Hope
 - d) So can you

V. Jesus Makes a Declaration (Luke 19:9-10)

- A. "Today salvation has come to this house" (v. 9)
- B. How did salvation come?
 1. Like Abraham by faith (v. 9)
 2. Jesus, the Son of Man, came to seek and save the lost

3. By His cross
 - a) Penalty
 - b) Power
 - c) Presence

VI. Conclusion

- A. He brought you here
- B. He is seeking you
- C. Will you receive Him?
 1. Realize
 2. Receive