

### **Zacchaeus: A Life Transformed**

**Summary: People sees Zacchaeus as a sinner, Jesus sees him as someone God loves. Zacchaeus seeks the Lord and finds himself being sought after by Jesus. Only Jesus can transform a life.**

Zacchaeus' name means "righteous one" but he wasn't living up to his name. Zacchaeus was one of life's invisible people. It is not easy being short. He had probably heard all the short jokes in his day. "Zacchaeus, you ought to be a Rabbi or a pastor. At least your sermons would be short!

Who was Zacchaeus and what caused him to search for Christ, and why his life is a testimony to the transforming power of the gospel.

A. He was a man who work for RRS (Roman Revenue Service)

To make matters worse, Zacchaeus is Jew collecting tax for the Roman Government from his own people and was a CHIEF tax collector. I am not sure any of us will fell too well inside us if we are about to be audited by the IRS.

B. He was dishonest man.

Tax collectors were notorious for being corrupt in the Bible times. Their job made them rich and despised. Roman demanded a certain amount of taxes from each territory, and people, anything over that amount, the collectors keep for shipping and handling, or their commission. There was a great deal of dishonesty that was associated with this practice. Zacchaeus was a man who would have been despised by his own people, even if he was honest because Zacchaeus was collecting taxes for Romans.

C. He was very rich

He was rich and found that riches did not satisfy the deepest needs of his heart. Jesus has told us that "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeded out of the mouth of God".

Why in the world would a person take the job of being a tax collector for the Roman government? The answer is because of money. Money is not everything in this world, here are few things money cannot buy:

- Money can buy medicine, but not health.
- Money can buy a house but not a home
- Money can buy a bed, but not a sleep.
- Money can buy food but not appetite.
- Money can buy a good life but not eternal life.
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In this the reading, I was able to notice three important things to consider

1. Zacchaeus looked for Jesus
2. He invited Jesus into his house
3. His meeting with Jesus changed his lifestyle. He showed his faith by what he did

My first important point is that

1. Zacchaeus looked for Jesus' verse 3 tells us that Zacchaeus was trying to see who Jesus was. This implies getting a visual, but it runs a little deeper.

The phrase translated was trying denotes to SEEK, or INVESTIGATION, or an EXAMINATION.

The word translated to SEE denotes to feel or perceive by sight.

What happened next after SEEING?

- Zacchaeus life was changed, from one who people hate to a person who is willing to help others.
- He did not attend a moral course or nor a training class. He met a person. He met Jesus. He met the Savior of his life.
- He trusted Christ and experienced His love and the forgiveness of his sin. This changed him.

How do we know? We saw a big change after he met Jesus.

- He stopped thinking only about himself and how to get more money; but now he is given it away. He is thinking about the poor.
- He repented. He wants to return to those he cheated, four times more.

You can sense the joy in him. Jesus says, "Today salvation has come to this house..."

No one can change your life. Only Jesus can. He has the POWER to change life.

- He is the Giver of life, and He can restore to us the meaning and purpose of life.

" Let me ask you, who is your Zacchaeus? Who is it that if Jesus were to go to their house instead of yours that you would grumble?

" Might I suggest our Zacchaeus is anyone with whom we withhold the gospel of Jesus Christ?

" OK, Jesus and most likely the 12 and who knows who else are in the home.

Are you going to happy to see Jesus in VLADIMIR PUTIN house?