

House of Prayer by Faith – Stone Soup Ministries

Zacchaeus Sought the LORD



And *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho. And, behold, *there was* a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. And he sought to see *Jesus* who *He was*; and could not for the press, because he was *little* of stature. And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him: for He was to pass that way. And when *Jesus* came to the place, He looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received Him joyfully.

And when they saw *it*, they all murmured, saying, that He was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and **if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold**. And *Jesus* said unto him, this day is salvation come to this house, forasmuch as he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. (Luke 19:1-10) KJV

Salvation is Come!!!

What is salvation? As pertaining to *Jesus Christ*, salvation is a "great deliverance (Hebrews 2:3)" A great deliverance from sin, and sin is all unrighteousness (1 John 5:17). According to the Luke 19 scriptural passage, *Jesus* came to "seek and to save that which was lost." Zacchaeus overcame great odds to see *Jesus*, and as a result of his faith and obedience, he was delivered. **Why?** *Jesus Christ*, the Son of the One True and Living God came to visit, and Zacchaeus graciously and whole heartedly accepted Him into his life both naturally and spiritually. Once Zacchaeus accepted *Jesus* as his Savior and into his heart, things began to change i.e. attitudes, ungratefulness, evil intent, and evil inclinations. **Why?** Because the fore mentioned **cannot** abide in the presence of the LORD *Jesus Christ*. The Zacchaeus lesson can be applied to us in the 21st century, by applying **Big Faith** to our circumstances and zealously seeking the LORD *Jesus* with no regards for hindrances and challenges. Because of Zacchaeus' faith, he became a Kingdom of God citizen.

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But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6) KJV

Heed the Call

Reports regarding Jesus' kingdom of God teachings and miracles had reached the ears of Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus could no longer ignore the reports, and his curiosity could no longer be contained. Zacchaeus decided that he was going to see Jesus. The crowds were thick and Zacchaeus' stature prevented him from getting a glimpse of Jesus. However, he made a **Big Faith** attempt to see Jesus, by running ahead of the crowd and climbing up a sycamore tree.

Wow! Zacchaeus *really* wanted to see Jesus. His **Big Faith** attempt resulted in having Jesus as a dinner guest! **Can you imagine having Jesus as a guest in your home?** Zacchaeus must have felt extra special knowing that a Great Teacher of the Law of God, the Son of God, the anticipated Messiah desired to come and have dinner with him. Jesus saw Zacchaeus *up* in the tree, and called him by his name AND told him at he was coming to his house for dinner! This dinner opportunity had an ulterior motive to bring the gospel of the Kingdom of God to Zacchaeus. As Jesus stated, Zacchaeus is a son of Abraham, but was spiritually lost. All Abraham's children had a chance (and yet have a chance) to accept Jesus, the Savior sent by the LORD God.



Accepting Jesus' call to come into our hearts, our entire attitudes and evil inclinations will cease, and be replaced with love such as His to adore the Father; and love such as His to love others.

Thank you,
LORD Jesus Christ !!!
Invite Jesus to come
into your heart now

Zacchaeus did not give the invitation, Jesus did!! Zacchaeus opened the way for Jesus to come into his home and into his heart. On the contrary, Jesus' actions were appalling to Jewish leaders; did He not know that Zacchaeus was a sinner and was in liaison with Rome as a publican (tax collector) which made him the worst of sinners. The Jewish leaders i.e. Pharisees would not have considered going into a sinner's home.

As a reminder, the Holy Scriptures state that the Law came by Moses, but **grace and truth** came by Jesus Christ/Yeshua ha Mashiach. Jesus further stated that He came to seek and save those that were lost. Zacchaeus was lost in the midst of ill gained riches via exorbitant taxes on top of required taxes.

Zacchaeus became **absorbed** in matters of this earth, which caused him to lose sight of his soul. In other words, **he was temporarily blinded** regarding the Laws of the LORD God, which commanded that he should love the LORD God and to love his neighbor as himself. To love the LORD God means love for others, and to love others is to love the LORD God. The fore mentioned commands make up the entire Law. Jesus' teachings opened Zaccheus' spiritual eyes and heart.

Faith Pleases the LORD God

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6) KJV

Faith is trusting in Jesus as the Son of the One True and Living God, and accepting Him as the Savior sent from the One God. Halleluia!!!

Increase faith by studying II Peter 1:5-11

Zacchaeus utilized a **leap** of Big faith when he accepted Jesus into his home and his heart. He discarded any and all unbelief and oppositions

Faith **pleases** the LORD

Great faith makes a huge difference in regards to deliverance (Matthew 9:29).

And when He saw their faith ..(Luke 5:20)

Pray for the faith of others (Luke 22:32).

Faith cometh by hearing ...(Romans 10:17)

We walk by faith (II Corinthians 5:7)

Have a great study!

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Brief Facts

Because of Jericho's advantageous position, tax collectors could charge outrageous taxes on various goods to how many spokes were on the wheels of a cart. Rome did not care about the exorbitant taxes that publicans (tax collectors) attached to the amount Rome required. Over and above what Rome required went to publicans. It is clear why they were utterly despised among their own people, namely the Jews.

✿ If ye seek Me, ye shall find Me, If you search for Me with ALL your heart (Jeremiah 9:24) KJV All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. (John 6:37) KJV