

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What spiritual preparations must we make in order to properly witness to those who are without?
2. Will a sinner who truly seeks Jesus find him under any circumstances?
3. What attitudes did Zacchaeus display that prompted Jesus to proclaim salvation to him?
4. Why did Jesus often choose to spend time with “sinners” rather than the spiritual crowd?
5. How can we apply “winning souls to the Lord through friendliness” like the Lord did with Zacchaeus?

SUMMARY:

Zacchaeus was a chief publican, a tax collector, who was very wealthy. Publicans, in general, were classed as great sinners and were hated particularly because of their occupation of collecting taxes for a foreign power. However, Jesus, who knows every heart, chose Zacchaeus the publican as the one with whom He wished to abide in Jericho. Zacchaeus was repentant of any wrong he had done, promised to give half his goods to the poor, and was converted that day. He who was lost had been sought and saved. (Luke 19:10) Jesus can enter such hearts today if they are willing to let Him come in.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #8

February 22, 2004

First Quarter

SEEKING AND SAVING THE SINNER

LESSON TEXT: *Luke 19:1-10*

LESSON SETTING: In the vicinity of Jericho.

TIME: Approximately 33 A.D.

- I. A SINNER SEEKS JESUS.** Luke 19:1-4
 - A. Diligence (vs. 3-4) Deuteronomy 4:29; Isaiah 55:6-7; Jeremiah 29:13; Matthew 6:33
 - B. Promise to Seekers. Psalm 145:18-19; Luke 11:10; Acts 17:27-31
- II. JESUS SEEKS A SINNER.** Luke 19:5-7
 - A. God’s Call (vs. 5) Jeremiah 31:3; Joel 2:12-13; Matthew 18:12; Revelation 3:20
 - B. Receiving Christ (vs. 6) Luke 8:40; John 1:12
- III. JESUS SAVES A SINNER.** Luke 19:8-10
Luke 7:36-39, 47-48; John 3:16-17; 8:1-11; Acts 2:21; Romans 5:8; 6:23; 10:13; 1 Timothy 1:15; Hebrews 7:25

GOLDEN TEXT: THE SON OF MAN IS COME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THAT WHICH WAS LOST.

Luke 19:10

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Luke 19:11-27

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Genesis 39:1-6; 20-23;
Matthew 25:14-30

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ, the Son of Man

TOPIC: SERVING CHRIST

INTRODUCTION:

The nobleman gave his servants, one, five and ten pounds. To each of us His children, He gives pounds, we do not all receive the same, but the more we are given, the more we are responsible for. A pound may mean any gift or talent, time or money or the greatest gift of all - Salvation!

The man who had ten pounds, shared his salvation with others, by preaching, teaching or writing, whatever the case may have been. Likewise, so did the one who had five pounds.

But what of the man who had only one pound? Many of us seemingly have no special gifts or talents, but every born-again child of God has one and that is salvation. To occupy this pound we must share this truth with others. We serve Christ by telling others of His plan of salvation. If we cannot speak well, we can show God's love, being channels through which He can work. By doing only His will, by becoming holy even as He is holy then our one precious pound is put to use, honoring and glorifying God.

CENTRAL TRUTH: When Christ returns, He will give a just reward to His servants.

GOLDEN TEXT: FOR WHOSOEVER HATH, TO HIM SHALL BE GIVEN, AND HE SHALL HAVE MORE ABUNDANCE: BUT WHOSOEVER HATH NOT, FROM HIM SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY EVEN THAT HE HATH.
Matthew 13:12

As we ponder the meaning of Jesus' words in this text let us go, as His disciples often did, to Jesus for the answers. It has been said that the Bible is its own best commentary. Hear these words of the Master about a certain rich man, "But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee then who shall those things be, which thou has provided?" (Luke 16:25)

Of another rich man, "But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou are tormented." (Luke 16:25)

And to the church at Laodicea, "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked." (Revelation 3:16-17)

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF Feb. 23 - 29

- M. Christ's Commission to Servants. Matthew 10:16-22
- T. Christ's Admonition to Servants. Matthew 10:37-42
- W. The Wicked Servants. Matthew 21:33-43
- T. The Principles of Reward. Matthew 25:14-30
- F. *The Faithful Servant. Luke 19:11-19
- S. *The Unfaithful Servant. Luke 19:20-27
- S. The Testimony of Faithfulness. 2 Timothy 4:1-8