The Account Of Zacchaeus

Intro: The account of Zacchaeus is only found in Luke’s account of Christ’s life. Luke 19:1-10 “1 And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. 2 And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. 3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. 4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way. 5 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. 6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. 7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner. 8 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. 9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.” Let us learn some lessons for this beautiful account.

I. Desire
   A. Luke 19:3 “3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.”
   B. Zacchaeus had a desire to see Jesus.
      1. He was short of stature.
      2. His desire was
         a. To see what sort of person Jesus was.
         b. Or he wanted to see which one of the crowd was Jesus.
      3. Lead him to climbing a tree so he could see (this is beyond what mere curiosity would produce).
   C. We must develop a desire for salvation.
      1. That means understanding that one is lost.
      2. Understanding that there is but one way.
         a. Acts 4:12 “12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”
         b. Substitutes (alcohol, popularity, power, etc.) will never satisfy.

II. Reception
   A. Luke 19:6 “6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.”
   B. Zacchaeus received Jesus.
   C. We likewise must receive Jesus.
      1. In receiving Jesus, we are receiving God.
         a. Mat. 10:40 “40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.”
         b. John 12:44-45 “44 Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. 45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.”
      2. To receive Jesus, we must receive His Word.
         a. Luke 10:16 “16 He that heareth you heareth me; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth him that sent me.”
b. John 17:8, 20 “8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me…. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;”

3. When we reject His Word, we reject Him.
   a. John 12:48 “48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.”
   b. Luke 9:26 “26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father’s, and of the holy angels.”

III. REPENTANCE
   A. Luke 19:8 “8 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.”
   B. Zacchaeus repented as is seen in his restitution.
   C. We must repent or perish.
      2. Luke 24:46-47 “46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”
      3. Acts 17:30 “30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.”
      4. True repentance requires restitution as far as is possible.

IV. SALVATION
   A. Luke 19:9 “9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.”
   B. Zacchaeus had salvation as a result of his actions.
   C. We can enjoy salvation if:
      1. We have that desire to be saved.
      2. We receive Jesus (in all that means).
         a. We obey the Gospel.
         b. We remain obedient to the Gospel.
      3. Then eternal salvation will be ours.

Conclusion: Do you have salvation today? If not, obey God’s Will for the remission of your sins, then live faithful to Him.