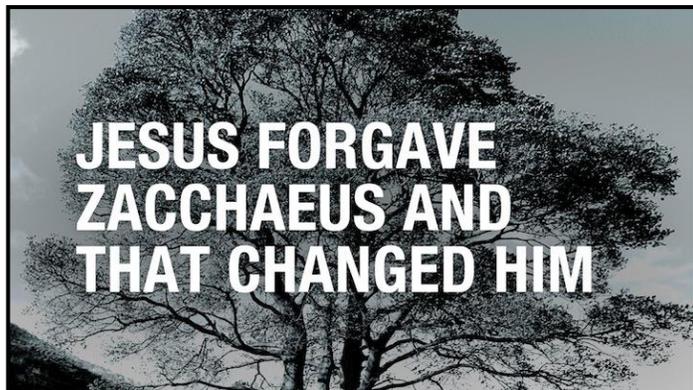


SPRING QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2016
THEME: FORSAKING ALL I TRUST HIM...THE FAITH STORY
UNIT THREE – “FULLNESS OF FAITH”

“FAITH EXERCISED BRINGS JOY TO AN OUTCAST”



Sunday School Lesson No. XIII
May 29, 2016

Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III
Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Luke 19:1-10
Required Reading: Luke 19:1-10
Motto Text: Luke 19:10, “*For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*”

Reliable Resources: What the Bible Teaches by R. A. Torrey; New Pilgrim Edition Study Bible; Easton’s Illustrated Dictionary; Word Search 10 Electronic Library; Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Wilmington’s Bible Handbook; Standard Lesson Commentary; Precepts for Living (UMI Publishing); Master Out- lines from “The Open Bible” Thomas Nelson; The Outline Bible by H. L. Wilmington; Analytical Bible Expositor by Butler; Luke by H. A. Ironside; Rightly Dividing Luke by E. L. Bynum; Adam Clarke’s Commentary

INTRODUCTION

The past weeks of lessons have focused on the subject of *Faith* (Forsaking All I Trust Him...the Faith Story.) We have studied situations and characters that demonstrated the tremendous need of faith being exercised. We have seen “Faith Under Fire,” “Restorative Faith,” and presently, “The Fullness of Faith!”

When all is said and done, we can agree with the gospel singer, “Faith can Conquer Anything.” Remember beloved, whether our faith is limited, fundamental, or unlimited, our Lord will always honor our faith. “*For without faith it is impossible to please (Him) God.*”

The last of the faith lessons focus on an unusual character named Zacchaeus. As the Sunday School choruses of years past sang: “Zacchaeus was a wee little man, And a wee little man was he. He climbed up in a sycamore tree, For the Lord he wanted to see. And as the Saviour passed that way, He looked up in the tree, And He said, ‘Zacchaeus, you come down from there! For I’m going to your house today. I’m going to your house today.’” Let us examine the exercising of the faith of this Jewish outcast named Zacchaeus, and how Jesus received and brought joy to him and his house!

Anticipated Power Points:

- **A Curious Citizen. Luke 19:1-4**
- **A Complex Call. Luke 19:5-7**
- **A Converted Character. Luke 19:8**
- **An Act of Compassion by Christ. Luke 19:9-10**

LESSON OUTLINE

“Faith Exercised Brings Joy to an Outcast”

I. A Curious Citizen. Luke 19:1-4

A. He lived in a cursed city (Jericho). v. 1

This is according to Joshua 6:26 and I Kings 16:34. (Read the commentary by Adam Clarke on this subject.)

B. He was a chief tax collector. v. 2

No doubt having purchased the franchise to collect the Roman taxes gave him the opportunity to impose unfair rates. It made him a man of great power. It was a hated job by the Jewish people.

C. He was hindered by a compressed crowd. v. 3

The physical height of Zacchaeus caused him to be shut out by the compressed crowd. He could not see Jesus passing. He was blocked by the density of the crowd.

D. He made a crucial climb. v. 4

He was a man with “grit” and ‘determination.’ He found a way to get ahead of the procession and climbed a sycamore tree to get a vantage point over the crowd.

II. A Complex Call. Luke 19:5-7

A. He received a compassionate call from Christ. vv. 5-6

Why? Because of the motto text’s answer. Luke 19:10, “*For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*” Many in life only stand by as bystanders. They sometimes hinder the way of hope. Note Psalm 1:1, “*Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.*” But Jesus knows how to reach all who will receive His compassionate call! “*Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*” Matthew 11:28

B. His invitation caused Christ to receive blunt criticism from the crowd. v. 7

People only know the outward appearance and judge accordingly. But thank the Lord that He truly knows the heart. No matter the ills of humanity, Christ’s love will seek their salvation!

III. A Converted Character. Luke 19:8

Upon accepting Jesus’ invitation to attend his home, Zacchaeus gladly came down from his place of observation. He then made preparations to receive Jesus. Sometime after a transformation of his heart, he demonstrated what John the Baptist told the Pharisees in Matthew 3:8 (NLT), “*Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God.*” Beloved, there must be evidence when a person has been converted (true transformation)!

According to E. L. Bynum:

1. He obeyed the Saviour. v. 6
2. He received Jesus joyfully. v. 6
3. Repentance evidenced by his willingness to make restitution to those he had wronged. He was willing to go beyond what the law required, which was the principal, plus 20%. See Lev. 6:2-5; Num. 5:7.”

Zacchaeus surely demonstrated his converted character. Beloved, do people really recognize that we have been transformed?

IV. An act of Compassion by Christ. Luke 19:9-10

He testified of the conversion. John 8:36, “*If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.*” Beloved, Jesus demonstrated in Zacchaeus what He truly came into the world to accomplish.

1. He came to set the captive free.
2. He came that we might have life and have it more abundantly.
3. He came to pay the ultimate price for our deliverance and did it by shedding His own precious blood!

All one has to do is exercise genuine faith in Jesus’ sacrificial work and resurrection. Then they would move from an outcast to an overcomer. “*Whosoever Will Let Him Come.*”

CLOSING

The hymn writer Will L. Thompson declares:

1. *Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, Calling for you and for me; See, on the portals He’s waiting and watching, Watching for you and for me.*
 - o ***Refrain: Come home, come home, You who are weary, come home; Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, Calling, O sinner, come home!***
2. *Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, Pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not His mercies, Mercies for you and for me?*
3. *Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing, Passing from you and from me; Shadows are gathering, deathbeds are coming, Coming for you and for me.*
4. *Oh, for the wonderful love He has promised, Promised for you and for me! Though we have sinned, He has mercy and pardon, Pardon for you and for me.*

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Looking Ahead:

June 5, 2016

Zephaniah 1:4-6, 14-16, 2:3



Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway as Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School Lesson