

Walking With Jesus



Toward Easter

“Let’s Meet Zacchaeus”

Monday

He entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man called by the name of Zaccheus; he was a chief tax collector and he was rich. Luke 19:1-2

Today we meet Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector. Zacchaeus was like many people today. He had his sights aimed at the riches of this world. There is nothing wrong with working hard and making a good living but when money becomes one’s priority, it becomes a misguided life.

Jesus tells us to store up treasure in Heaven rather on earth which can only be lost by moths, rust or thieves.

As we begin this Easter season, let us reexamine our priorities and put in place the important things, the eternal things that last forever. Work hard, make a good living, but not at the expense of your God or your people. Jesus died for people so we should honor them and not use them for our own advancement.

Tuesday

Zaccheus was trying to see who Jesus was, and was unable because of the crowd, for he was small in stature. Luke 19:3

Zacchaeus was sinner by the standard of that culture and the Word of God. Though he was considered a bad man, he possessed a good quality. He wanted to see Jesus.

Isn't it a good thing when bad people know they need a Savior? With all that he had, he still had a void in his heart. What he had heard about Jesus caused him to seek Him out. So he climbed a Sycamore tree with low hanging branches knowing Jesus would pass underneath.

When you know you have a need, you do all you can to seek out God, just like the woman who reached through the crowd and grabbed hold of the hem of His garment. What is your need today and are you going after Jesus to have that need met?

Wednesday

v.5 When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, "Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house." Luke 19:5

Zacchaeus was right. Jesus came walking by and walked right under him. Looking up He saw Zacchaeus and invited Himself to his house for dinner! Zacchaeus scooted down the tree as fast as he could, considering it an honor that Jesus would even consider being in his company.

Zacchaeus is going to learn a valuable lesson of Grace: That Jesus is a friend of sinners and has come to seek and save that which is lost. This means we cannot count anyone out for salvation. It is not our place to judge who can and who cannot be saved. Jesus died for the sins of the whole world!

Let us be mindful and sensitive that Jesus wants to save some of the people in our own lives even though we think they are too lost.

Thursday

For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.

II Chr 16:9

Why would Jesus darken the door of a man like Zacchaeus? Because He is looking for those He knows will respond to Him. Jesus search-es the world over knowing that there are people, lost in sin, but given the opportunity, will respond to His invitation of Grace.

He did that with you didn't He? We were all lost in sin, but He found us, redeemed us and made us a new creation.

Let's thank God this Easter season for the Cross that demonstrated His love and the precious blood that was shed for the purchase price of our souls. Fortunately, God is not done looking so life someone up in prayer today who has not yet come to know the Lord.

Friday

Zaccheus stopped and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, half of my possessions I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will give back four times as much." Luke 19:8

Right in the middle of the meal with Jesus Zacchaeus had a realization of his own self, or his own sin or the injustice he caused to people.

It's good to stop and think about yourself once in a while, especially when spending time with God.

Action follows true salvation. Zacchaeus said he would give away half of his possessions and for those he has defrauded, he would return to them four times as much as he took or 400%.

That is quite a change, wouldn't you say? That's because true salvation results in true repentance and true repentance results in a changed life. Let us be sure that our profession of faith is supported by Godly action as proof of our conversion.