

Luke 19:10. (Rev. Robert Ormerod)

"For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

A tremendous statement concerning the person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ. Any better text that articulates His mission? He context is the salvation of one man, Zacchaeus. Cf John 10:9, 10.

Often statements are made rebuking the challenges of men to Him.

(1) THE CHARACTER OF ZACCHAEUS.

v1: Jesus entered and passed though Jericho. This city was under God's curse. Cf. Joshua 7. In pursuit of another case of individual salvation.

He was a Chief Person, v2.

Under the dictates of the Roman government, a publican - tax collector. Generally despised on account of their employer and employment.

Christ's ministry was to save men from every strata of society. Mission to the lost. Psalm 51:5.

A Curious Person, v3.

Crowds assembled to hear Christ. Curiosity was aroused. Now looking for the one who was looking for him. What we want for you. More about Jesus would I know What's he level of our desire after Christ.

A Contained Person, v3.

Limited by his size. And by the crush.

The devil aims to hold souls back from Christ. Tries to pen us in. No shortage of obstacles. Cf. preacher in Africa, announced 1 Timothy 1:15. "Masa, can you repeat that?"

(2) THE CALL TO ZACCHAEUS.

v5: Christ called out to him.

A Glorious Revelation.

While in sycamore tree, excellent vantage point, Jesus stopped and looked up at this man. He knew all about him, as He does us. Where we are physically and spiritually. Many try to hide. Cf. Adam, Genesis 3. Detected, because God knew all their circumstances. Same with us.

A Glorious Invitation, v5.

"Come to Me." Cf. Isaiah 1:18, Matthew 11:28.

Cf. RUC reserves looking after HM the Queen. Saluted the Queen instead of hiding in the shadows.

Christ invites sinners to Himself for salvation.

A Great Urgency, v5.

Cf. sales pitch - offer only for today. Genesis 6:3. "There is a time, we know not when" Never know the date of the last invitation.

Cf. hospital visit, man extremely ill, in within a moment - "I've done my job, you need to do yours." Postponed. Rejection of Christ.

How long have you to live?

(3) THE GLORIOUS CHARACTER OF CHRIST / THE CHANGE IN ZACCHAEUS.

Christ was a Discerning Person, v7.

He knew the background murmuring.

A Compassionate Person.

Cf. cry of Christ over tomb of Lazarus, esp. over Jerusalem.

Pointing like Paul, 1 Corinthians 1:23.

A Saving Person, v10.

Christ is seeking to save the lost. Today, as tomorrow may be too late.

Cf. infidel mocking former alcoholic ... "I believe it with all my heart...come up to my house, I can show you a miracle. Turned beer into carpets on my floor, tables, chairs, suite of furniture..."

The difference Jesus makes - a complete change. "It is well with my soul."

What will you do with Jesus?