

"CHRIST CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE THOSE WHO ARE LOST"

LUKE 19:1-10
TEXT: VERSE 10

INTRO: Our theme during this Christmas season is focused on the **work of Christ that began with His incarnation**. That is, He was **"BORN TO DIE."** Truly Jesus Christ came into this world, not to be placed in a manger, but to go to the cross to provide **REDEMPTION FOR ALL MANKIND**. Today we shall focus a "sub-theme" of the overall emphasis for this Christmas season and that is that **CHRIST CAME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THOSE WHO ARE LOST**. Indeed we should PRAISE THE LORD for that, but **WHAT ALL DOES IT INVOLVE?** Let's Consider.

OBSERVATION: The text before us speaks of the tax collector ZACCHAEUS having a great desire to see Jesus that he climbed up into a sycamore tree to get a good view of the Lord. The event ended by Jesus going to his house and ZACCHAEUS getting saved. Some observations about Zacchaeus:

- He was probably an administrator tax collector over a large area with many tax collectors under him. Therefore he was very rich.
- He wanted to get to learn more about Christ.
- He was a Jew. An interesting observation is that Jesus invited Himself to Zacchaeus's house, which was the **ONLY TIME** Christ invited Himself to someone's house. Christ's statement was **AN IMPERATIVE...NOT A REQUEST**. Christ had business to do with Zacchaeus.

A LOOK AT VERSE 10

1) Note the Name of Christ - **"THE SON OF MAN"**

-This is the name Jesus gives to Himself more than any other. It is used 83 times for Christ in the Gospels and 14 times in Mark.

-It speaks of **HUMANITY** and **HUMILITY** of Christ.

-It speaks of the **EVERLASTING GLORY OF CHRIST** - Daniel 7:13,14

2) Note the Condition of the **LOST**

-The "Lost" refers to **ALL HUMANITY IN THEIR CONDITION APART FROM CHRIST**.

-It refers to the fact that **all those apart from Christ are wandering about in the WORLD OF SIN** and under the power of **SATAN** and need **SALVATION**.

OBSERVATION: Verse 10 is one of the **CLEAREST PRESENTATIONS** of the **PURPOSE OF CHRIST COMING TO EARTH** found in scripture. Christ Jesus came into the world to **SEEK AND TO SAVE ALL OF LOST HUMANITY!**

I. CHRIST IS A SEEKING SAVIOR

JESUS CAME TO "SEEK" THE LOST

A. Why Did Christ come to Earth to Seek the Lost?

1. Because Humanity is **lost and does not know it!** 1 Corinthians 2:14

-Christ came into the world to reveal the condition of the lost **to them** so that **THEY** would **turn to Him** for **salvation**.

2. Because He had a **Mission to Fulfill**

-John 3:17 and John 10:10

QUESTION: *IS CHRIST SEEKING YOU RIGHT NOW?*

B. How Did Christ Come to the Earth to Seek the Lost?

1. By Leaving Heaven and coming to the Earth - Philippians 2:5-8

2. By Calling People to Him Directly - Mark 1:16-21

3. By Sending Forth Disciples to Seek others - Luke 10:1-3ff

4. By Establishing the Great Commission - Mark 16:15

5. By Teaching about Heaven and Salvation - John 14:1-6

6. By Convicting the Holy Spirit Convicting the Lost of Sin - John 16:7,8

QUESTION: *IS CHRIST SEEKING YOU RIGHT NOW?*

ILLUSTRATION:

II. CHRIST IS A SAVING SAVIOR

JESUS CAME TO "SAVE" THE LOST

A. Why Did Christ come to Earth to Save the Lost?

1. Because the **WHOLE WORLD** is Lost in Sin - Romans 3:22,23

2. Because the **CONDITION OF THE LOST** is not good - Ephesians 2:12

3. Because **NO LOST PERSON** can save himself - Romans 3:20

QUESTION: *ARE YOU STILL IN YOUR LOST CONDITION RIGHT NOW?*

B. How Did Christ Come to the Earth to Save the Lost?

1. By an Act of the Greatest Humility - Philippians 2:8
2. By an Act of the Greatest Sacrificial Death - 1 Peter 3:18
3. By an Act of the Greatest Love - John 15:13
4. By an Act of the Greatest Grace - 2 Corinthians 8:9
5. By an Act of the Greatest Atonement - 1 Peter 2:24
6. By an Act of the Greatest Resurrection - Romans 4:25
7. By an Act of the Greatest Intercession - Hebrews 7:24,25
8. By an Act of the Greatest Glorification - Colossians 3:5

QUESTION: *IF YOU ARE STILL IN YOUR LOST CONDITION, WILL YOU ALLOW CHRIST TO SAVE YOU RIGHT NOW?*

QUESTIONS: *WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE SAVED? IT MEANS TO BE DELIVERED FROM SIN, ITS POWER, ITS PRESENCE AND ITS PENALTY THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST ALONE.*

-Romans 10:13; Galatians 3:26

ILLUSTRATION:

APPLICATION AND LESSON

1) For the Christian: We all know that Christ came to SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST. Let's show our appreciation.

- By Service
- By Praise and Worship
- By Witness
- By Total Commitment

2) For the non-Christian: Jesus Christ came to Earth to SEEK AND SAVE YOU! He is seeking you RIGHT NOW! *WILL YOU RESPOND TO HIM AND LET HIM SAVE YOU RIGHT NOW?*

2 Corinthians 6:2