

Jesus Came to Seek and to Save
Sunday July 23, 2023
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Where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center. (John 19:18 NKJV)

Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" (Luke 18:18 NKJV)

Rich young ruler was a Jew, because he was talking about an inheritance.

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. (Luke 19:1, 2 NKJV)

Zacchaeus sought to see Jesus. The rich young ruler wanted to know he could do to inherit eternal life.

So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery,' 'Do not murder,' 'Do not steal,' 'Do not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother.' " And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth." So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. (Luke 18:19-23 NKJV)

Verse 23, he leaves sorrowful. Jesus said, " you lack one thing". This is the only person that came to Jesus and didn't get what he asked for.

And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. (Luke 19:3-6 NKJV)

Verse 6 says, received Him joyfully. Remember the rich young ruler leaves sorrowful.

But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." (Luke 19:7 NKJV)

The crowd never jumped the rich young ruler, but they jumped Zacchaeus. He is also labeled a sinner.

Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." (Luke 19:8 NKJV)

Grace will always out give the works of the law. Zacchaeus was willing to give without being asked. The rich young ruler wouldn't give at all.

And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; (Luke 19:9 NKJV)

You don't get inheritance by doing, you get inheritance by being. The crowd called him a sinner, but Jesus called him a Son.

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10 NKJV)

Lost is the Greek means "destroy, lose, to be rendered useless".

Zacchaeus was a Son of Abraham the whole time, so was the rich, young ruler. They just didn't know it. We have to understand the heart of the Father.

For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. (Matthew 18:11 NKJV)

For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them. " And they went to another village. (Luke 9:56 NKJV)

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16 NKJV)

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. (John 10:10 NKJV)

“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’ I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance. “Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!’ Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” (Luke 15:4-10 NKJV)

From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matthew 4:17 NKJV)

Is at hand means "has drawn near"

And saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!” (Matthew 3:2 NKJV)

And as you go, preach, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is at hand.” (Matthew 10:7 NKJV)

“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. (Matthew 7:13, 14 NKJV)

Destruction in the Greek means "to be rendered useless."

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