

Jesus and the Tax Collector

Luke 19:1–10

Main Point

Jesus seeks and saves repentant sinners.

I. Key Terms/Points in the Story

- A. Jericho — This is *municipal* “new” Jericho (Jesus healed blind Bartimaeus just outside of *residential* “old” Jericho, which was roughly 2 miles northeast of municipal Jericho); roughly 15–17 miles east of Jerusalem.
- B. Zacchaeus — Hebrew root of his name means “righteous/innocent one.”
- C. Chief Tax Collector — a supervisor who oversaw the collection of taxes over a large region; he likely got rich by skimming a cut from those who were under his administration.
- D. Sycamore Tree — a large (Mulberry?) tree with low, thick branches.
- E. Sinner — the Jewish crowd viewed tax collectors as traitors to the Jewish nation and lumped them in with the prostitutes, robbers, liars, etc., with whom it was not worth associating.
- F. Restitution — the Torah required restitution for those who sinned by stealing (e.g., Exod. 22:1; for less severe cases, the Law required 20% restitution; see Lev. 6:5; Num. 5:6–7).
- G. Son of Abraham — a person who is ethnically a Jew.
- H. Salvation — this word means *deliverance*.
- I. Son of Man — the Messianic title Jesus often used concerning himself; cf. Dan. 7:13–14.
- J. Seek and Save the Lost — see Luke 15:1–32.

II. Truths

- A. Jesus seeks and saves.
 - 1. *Jesus seeks* those who are spiritually lost.
 - 2. *Jesus saves* those who humbly repent.
- B. Believers respond and repent.
 - 1. *Believers respond* in faith to Jesus and his call.
 - 2. *Believers repent* in humility of their sins.