

More than Rescued

Luke 19:1-10

What can you do with something that is _____?

Key beliefs in Christianity:

God created a good world, with nothing _____ in it

Today the world and everything in it is _____

Our question:

What is God's _____ for a world, along with its people, that has been broken?

Setting of Luke 19

A _____ ruler who wanted to follow Jesus

Jesus said, "If you want to follow me, give all your money to the poor, and you'll have treasure in heaven."

"How hard it is for the _____ to enter the kingdom of God!" Luke 18:23-26



Romans:

Had final authority over _____

Controlled: laws, justice, enforcement/army, commerce

Jewish people:

Under Roman authority

Controlled: community life & _____ life (mostly)

Tax collectors:

Were Jewish. Collected taxes from _____ people. Paid taxes to _____

Kept as much as they could for themselves

Known as traitors & _____

Luke 19:1-10

1-2: Setting and characters

Jesus: on his way to Jerusalem

Jericho: wonderful place for _____

Zacchaeus

Beneficiary of an _____ social system

So the rest of the Jewish people _____ him

3-4: Zacchaeus broke _____ in order to see Jesus

We don't know why he was interested

Maybe because one of Jesus' chosen followers was a _____: Levi

Being short and being _____ blocked his way to Jesus

He ran and climbed a tree to see Jesus

Not _____ actions

5: Jesus broke _____ in order to be with Zacchaeus

We don't know how Jesus knew Zacchaeus

Certainly he was looking for 'the _____'

Demanded _____

From the _____: rich tax collector

Jesus is righting a _____ of that society

He could have just _____ of healing

Instead He joined in _____ with the despised

"I must": perhaps Jesus anticipated _____

He would not give in to the _____ that will come

6-7: Reactions to Jesus' action: joy and grumbling

Zacchaeus _____ at Jesus' interest in him

People _____ that Jesus honored a despised man

Zacchaeus hadn't yet done anything good except trying to _____ Jesus

Somehow they knew and _____ Zacchaeus

8: Zacchaeus was genuinely _____

_____ source of unjust wealth

Give half to the poor

_____ fraud

Pay back 4 times as much

Like the "pearl of great price" in _____ order

Having received the most precious gift of life, he gladly gave away his money for _____

9-10: Jesus' interpretation: this _____ is salvation

_____ is convincing evidence of salvation

Because it is an _____ part of it

"Son of Abraham": Zacchaeus has the _____ of a genuine disciple

Through Zacchaeus, Jesus fulfilled His _____

Luke 4:16-21; 3:7-9

The Big Idea:

Jesus' purpose is

to rescue the lost, the _____ - _____, and the despised

so they will join His _____

of bringing God's _____ to the poor and oppressed

Application:

Rejoice in the full picture of God's intention for salvation

John 5:24

AND _____ to join the work of God

John 14:11-12

Join God's work to bring _____ / _____

Matthew 6:1

In English, _____ emphasizes conformity to _____ standards

_____ usually denotes conformity to _____ standards

These distinctions are _____ to translate biblical terms...the two English words are _____

Righteousness involves: _____ + _____

Genuine conversion in Christ results in _____

Matthew 12:33

Learn to _____ unrighteousness/injustice

Economic, education, opportunity, even life

Where has my good come at someone else's _____?

In what ways might people experience hardship or trouble that they don't _____?

"_____ and (____-) _____ prevented, for a time, the evil from being perceived

Pursue righteousness/justice

Matthew 6:33

Both spiritual (_____, 'righteousness') and "natural" (_____, 'justice')

Where has wrong been done or is it being done?

Speak up. And _____ where appropriate

Work to make things right: _____ and _____

What you confess before God seek to make right with your _____

**More than simply being rescued,
Christ's church is to join God's work
of bringing righteousness/justice
both vertically and horizontally
both proclaiming and bringing
the Lord's favor to those in distress**

Reflection Questions

- In your own history with Christianity (whether long or short, and whether someone looking at Christianity from the outside or as someone who identified as a Christian), what has been the relationship between understanding the vertical and the horizontal aspects of the call of God for His church?
- In what ways might the words of John Newton apply to you: **“inattention and (self-)interest prevented, for a time, the evil from being perceived”**?
- John Newton said that, as a former slave ship captain who claimed at that time to be a Christian, when the slave trade was being debated, he had the “conviction that silence, at such a time, and on such an occasion, would be criminal.” In what ways is that true for the church today? In what ways might it be true for you today?