

Insights from Luke

#74: "Restitution Personified"

Luke 19:1-10

Luke 19:1-4

"¹ He entered Jericho and was passing through. ² And there was a man called by the name of Zaccheus; he was a chief tax collector and he was rich. ³ Zaccheus was trying to see who Jesus was, and was unable because of the crowd, for he was small in stature. ⁴ So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree in order to see Him, for He was about to pass through that way."



Luke 19:5

"⁵ When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, 'Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay at your house.'"

Luke 19:6

"⁶ And he hurried and came down and received Him gladly."

Luke 19:7

"⁷ When they saw it, they all began to grumble, saying, 'He has gone to be the guest of a man who is a sinner.'"

Luke 19:8-9

“⁸ Zaccheus stopped and said to the Lord, ‘Behold, Lord, half of my possessions I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will give back four times as much.’ ⁹ And Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham.’”

Luke 19:10

“¹⁰ For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Luke is drawing our attention to the need of faith and repentance.

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 31: What is effective calling?

A. 31: Effective calling is the work of God’s Spirit, who convinces us that we are sinful and miserable, who enlightens our minds in the knowledge of Christ, and who renews our will. This is how he persuades and makes us able to receive Jesus Christ, who is freely offered to us in the gospel.

**Repentance
is far more than
being sorry for wrong doing.**

I Thessalonians 1:9

“⁹ For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God.”

Luke 19:8

“⁸ Zaccheus stopped and said to the Lord, ‘Behold, Lord, half of my possessions I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will give back four times as much.’”

What does repentance look like?

“Our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ ... willed that the whole of life of believers should be repentance,” -- *Martin Luther*

It is God alone who grants repentance.