

Luke 19

- I. 19:1-10 The Conversion of Zacchaeus
- II. 19:11-27 Parable of the Ten Minas
- III. 19:28-40 The Triumphal Entry
- IV. 19:41-44 Jesus Laments over Jerusalem
- V. 19:45-48 Jesus Cleanses the Temple

- I. 19:1-10 The Conversion of Zacchaeus

Repentance Illustrated

- A. 19:2 *chief tax collector* – the only *chief* tax collector mentioned in Scripture.
- B. When a thief becomes a giver, then we know biblical repentance has truly taken place.

*Ephesians 4:28(NKJV) Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, **that he may have something to give him who has need.***

- C. Compare with Scrooge.
 - i. We all know what he was like at the beginning. He was a miser who hated everybody, everything and hated Christmas most of all. But think about what he was like in the end. The final description of Ebenezer Scrooge reads like this:

“And it was always said of him that he knew how to keep Christmas well if any man alive possessed the knowledge.”

That's what repentance looks like. Scrooge became a loving, giving, generous man – and Zacchaeus the chief tax collector is giving away money!

- II. 19:11-27 Parable of the Ten Minas

- A. Background to the story:

In those days the Herod family ruled in Palestine by permission from the Roman emperor. After the death of Herod the Great, his son Archelaus (born to a Samaritan woman) went to Rome to get permission to rule over his father's kingdom – in agreement with the final revision of his father's will.

This became a very complicated request. His authority was opposed by his own brother Antipas *and* many of his Jewish subjects! While Archelaus was in Rome, his brother appeared with a competing claim to the throne. Moreover, a delegation of Jews arrived from Palestine asking that they be freed from the rule of kings altogether and given greater autonomy.

Caesar eventually gave Archelaus his kingdom – sort of. He was given half the territory of Herod the Great and returned to Palestine as an *ethnarch* – a title less than that of *king*. And he used every opportunity to take vengeance on the people who opposed him. Josephus writes, “Archelaus ... did not forget old feuds, but treated not only the Jews but even the Samaritans with great brutality.”

- B. To Christ's listeners this was very recent history. Now Jesus tells a parable picturing Himself as a rejected ruler who will surely return to claim His kingdom.
- C. The Characters in the parable:
- i. The nobleman, who travels to a distant place to receive a kingdom.
 - ii. The servants, who each receive responsibility while their master is away.
 - iii. The citizens, who oppose the nobleman's right to rule.
- D. 19:13 *mina* = 100 days of work for a normal worker
- i. The lesson for us as servants: Our Master has left us in a hostile environment and expects us to “do business” while He is away. We are supposed to use the resources he gave us to further his interests. Not like the talents parable – each here is equal.
 - ii. 19:15 When the master returns he deals with the servants first. Only later does he deal with his enemies.

1 Peter 4:17 (NKJV) For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?

- a) The reward for faithful service is not rest, but *more* service! A true servant of God understands this kind of blessing.
- iii. We've got to **use our opportunities**. Think of David and Goliath.
 - a) Goliath taunted the Israelites, inviting them to send someone to try to kill him for 40 days, “morning and evening”.
 - b) Saul and the army of Israel just listened to him and did nothing.
 - c) David defeated Goliath the very day he heard the taunts. David became a hero but had nothing that was not available to King Saul or the entire army of Israel.
 - He faced the same giant that faced them.
 - He killed him with a stone that had been lying in the brook the whole time.
 - He then cut off Goliath's head using the giant's own sword.
 - He didn't use Saul's armor though Saul offered it to him. In other words Saul had advantages David didn't have but in the end they did him no good.

Heroes are not measured by the weight of their armor, but by the size of the giants they decapitate.

- iv. What do we have in common with every other believer?

- a) Something to Share: The Gospel – along with your life, your time, and the love the Lord puts in your heart for the people around you.

*Titus 2:9-10 (NKJV) ⁹Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back, ¹⁰not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, **that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.***

- a) Someone to Share It with: Ask the Lord to show you one person that you can be a blessing to. No doubt there are several – but be realistic. Start with one.
- a) The Same Number of Hours in a Day as Anyone Else.
- a) A Savior who has already enlisted us into His service and who loves us and wants us to succeed.

III. 19:28-40 The Triumphal Entry

- A. This fulfilled the prophecy of Zechariah, written some 400 years earlier:

Zechariah 9:9 (NKJV) “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.”

IV. 19:41-44 Jesus Laments over Jerusalem

- A. 19:42 Daniel 9 written some 500 years before this day, gives us a prophecy pointing to the exact day that Christ would present Himself to the nation as their Messiah.
- B. Christ’s prediction came true in A.D. 70. At that time the Roman army led by Titus, destroyed the city. For decades after that no Jew was allowed to even visit the holy hill on which the temple once stood.

V. 19:45-48 Jesus Cleanses the Temple

- A. Contrast: The chief priests at the end of the chapter and Zacchaeus the chief tax collector from the beginning: The chief tax collector repented, the chief priests rebelled.

Application: When a church loses its focus, it also loses its privilege to do ministry. The church of Ephesus left its first love. Jesus gave them this warning:

Revelation 2:5 (NKJV) Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.

- B. 19:48 Literally “the people all hung upon Him hearing” They were hanging on His words. They loved to hear the word of the Lord – like the people of Horizon Central.