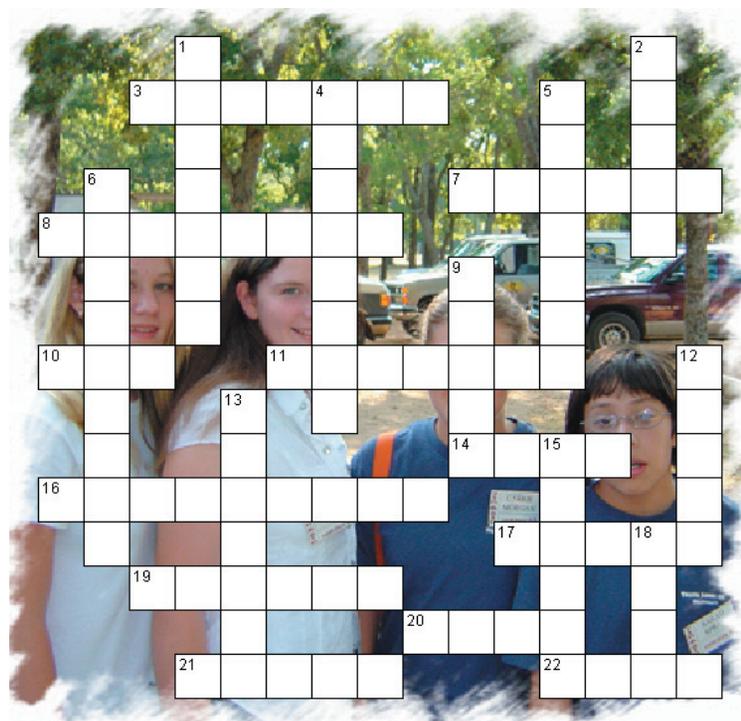


Crossword Puzzle

The Ministry of the Lord Jesus

- Lesson Four -

The Ministry of Salvation (2) - The Salvation of Zaccheus



Across

Down

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3. ...I ____ four times as much. | 1. ...the cursed city of _____. |
| 7. ... the _____ city of Jericho. | 2. Tax collectors... took ____ from them and gave it to the Romans. |
| 8. He climbed the sycamore tree. | 4. ...the Romans who ____ the holy land. |
| 10. Zaccheus was a ____ collector. | 5. ... ____ and cleanse every sin. |
| 11. ...to be saved... ____ in the Lord... | 6. Today ____ has come to this house. |
| 14. The Lord Jesus brings such a ____ and wonderful salvation. | 9. ... ____ up his sinful past. |
| 16. Zaccheus was a tax _____. | 12. ...from anyone by ____ accusation... |
| 17. ...today I must stay in your _____. | 13. ...forgive and ____ every sin. |
| 19. Jesus knows the _____ condition... | 15. ...he could not see over the _____ |
| 20. The ____ Jesus... | 18. The Son of Man has come to seek and to ____ that which is lost. |
| 21. Zaccheus wanted to see Him. | |
| 22. The Son of man has come to ____ | |

I. Overview.

God is willing to save people regardless of how sinful they are. In fact, God is seeking sinners so that they might be saved. There is only one way for anyone to be saved and that is for them to believe in the Lord Jesus. In the previous lesson we learned about a man named Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a good, clean, honest and upright man. We saw that even such a good man still needs the salvation of God. Without taking God's way of salvation, even the best of men are still fallen, natural and in the old creation.



The Lord Jesus is seeking lost ones to bring to His rich and wonderful salvation.

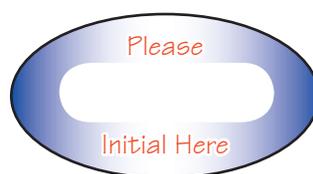
In this lesson we will consider a much different man. This man is named Zaccheus. Zaccheus was from a cursed place and he was a tax collector. Tax collectors were hated by the Jews because they took money from them and gave it to the Romans who occupied the holy land. Many of the tax collectors were among the worst of sinners.

II. Memory Verse.

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

(Luke 19:10)

Parent's Initials:



III. Lesson.

Regardless of how sinful Zaccheus was, God still wanted to save him. Within Zaccheus, God had put a desire to see Jesus. One day, Jesus was passing through the place where Zaccheus lived – the cursed city of Jericho. Because Zaccheus was so short, he could not see over the crowds who gathered around the Lord Jesus. He was so determined that he would see Jesus that he climbed up into a sycamore tree.

The Lord Brings Salvation to Zaccheus

When the Lord Jesus passed by and saw Zaccheus up in the tree, He called to him, “Zaccheus, hurry and come down, for today I must stay in your house.” Zaccheus immediately came down and welcomed the Lord Jesus into his house. Zaccheus rejoiced to have the Lord Jesus in his house.

Then a wonderful thing happened. Zaccheus said to the Lord, “Behold, the half of my possessions, Lord, I give to the poor, and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore four times as much.” This saying showed what a wonderful salvation Zaccheus had received. Right away, he wanted to restore what he had taken dishonestly and to clear up his sinful past.



Zaccheus climbed a tree beside the road to see the Lord Jesus.

Then the Lord Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house!” It did not matter to the Lord Jesus how sinful Zaccheus had been in the past. As soon as he had repented and believed in the Lord Jesus and in His Word, he could receive salvation. His great turn to clear his past and restore things taken unrighteously was a strong proof of his salvation.

The Son of Man Coming to Seek and to Save the Lost

After telling this story, the gospel of Luke tells us “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which is lost.” This indicates that the Lord Jesus is seeking lost ones – ones who have been away from God in the world and in sin. The Lord Jesus knows the sinful condition of man and is able to forgive and cleanse every sin. When man is willing to turn away from his sinful past, regardless how bad it was, and to turn to the Lord Jesus, he can receive a wonderful salvation. Like Zaccheus we can receive a life-changing salvation. The Lord Jesus brings such a rich and wonderful salvation in His ministry.

--- Questions for Discussion ---

1. What kind of person was Zaccheus?

2. Why did the Jewish people hate those who worked as tax collectors?

3. How was Zaccheus able to see the Lord Jesus?

4. What did Zaccheus do after he met the Lord?

