

## THE MIGHTY POWER OF CHRIST IN TRANSFORMING SINNERS INTO SAINTS

**TEXT:** *Luke 19:9: And Jesus said unto him, This day is Salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.*

### INTRODUCTION:

The Bible is a **Book of Miracles**, and in it we witness the supernatural done by the All-Powerful Christ, The Son of The Living God. He is seen walking on water like it was pavement. He restores sight to many blind people. He restores a withered arm and hand to a man, raises the dead, and controls nature by stilling a storm by His spoken word. He casts out demons, and heals many lepers and sick folk.



He feeds a multitude of over 5,000 people after receiving a boy's lunch of five loaves and two little fishes after He blesses them. He now multiplies the food to such an extent that there are baskets of leftovers.

However, the full majesty of His Might and Power are now to be revealed in the miracle of transformed lives. We have such an example before us today. **This is the primary purpose of Christ coming into the world.**



The Holy Spirit introduces us to a publican, a tax collector for the Roman Government, working in the city of Jericho. He is in charge of all these tax collectors. This is how the Holy Spirit introduces him "Behold" there was a man named Zacchaeus, who was chief amongst the Publicans". After the same manner He says, "Behold a woman".

***Matthew 15:22: And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto Him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, Thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.***

It is not that this woman was a scarcity or this publican man either. The Holy Spirit is pointing them out as outstanding people made so by the manifestation of the supernatural power of the Lord manifested in their lives. Both of these people were social outcasts. There are not hopeless causes with the Lord Jesus, nor are there rejects.

**What we need to be reminded of is this:**

**(a) That every person is Precious to the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**(b) Each of you is Irreplaceable, Unique, Valuable, and Immortal.**

**Question:** What is so unusual about this rich man?

**Answer:** He *sought* to see Jesus!!!

***Luke 19:3: And he sought to see Jesus Who He was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.***



He is a Diligent Seeker. First, we see him running to get far ahead of the crowd, so he can find a vantage point to see the Lord Jesus Christ. Next, he does a very unusual thing for a wealthy man to do, and that is: He became a tree climber, and that took quite some effort for this man whom we might call *Shorty*. These factors denote him to be a Diligent Seeker. Listen to what the Bible says;

**(a) *Jeremiah 29:13: And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart.***

**(b) *Isaiah 55:6: Seek ye the LORD while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near:***

**(c) *Deuteronomy 4:29: But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find Him, if thou seek Him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.***

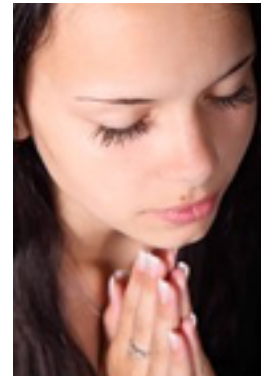
**(d) *1 Chronicles 16:10-11:***

**<sup>10</sup> Glory ye in His Holy Name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD**

**<sup>11</sup> Seek the LORD and His strength, seek His face continually.**

**(e) 1 Chronicles 28:9b: . . . if thou seek Him, He will be found of thee; but if thou forsake Him, He will cast thee off for ever.**

**(f) 2 Chronicles 7:14: If My people, which are called by My Name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.**



**(g) Psalms 34:4: I sought the LORD, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.**

**(h) Jeremiah 10:21: For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the LORD: therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered.**

**(i) Zephaniah 1:4-6:**

**<sup>4</sup> I will also stretch out Mine hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the Chemarims with the priests;**

**<sup>5</sup> And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship and that swear by the LORD, and that swear by Malcham;**

**<sup>6</sup> And them that are turned back from the LORD; and those that have not sought the LORD, nor inquired for Him.**

**(j) 2 Chronicles 16:12-13:**

**<sup>12</sup> And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians.**

**<sup>13</sup> And Asa slept [was buried] with his fathers, and died in the one and fortieth year of his reign.**

The Lord does not put all the responsibility upon us to Seek Him in order that He

might save us from our sins, and — after we are saved — to sanctify us wholly, and to bless us and to prosper us. In this experience with Zacchaeus, the Lord Jesus is — out of pure love, grace and mercy — seeking the lost souls of mankind.

In this chapter, we see Jesus coming to Zacchaeus, looking up into the Sycamore tree, calling him by name, and inviting him to come down from the tree so Jesus could go with him to his house. Jesus is a true friend of sinners and was not ashamed to go with — or even identify Himself with— those who are lost in their sins.



***Luke 19:10: For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.***

**Question:** The Big Question — What motivated this sinner man, Zacchaeus, to seek the Lord Jesus?

**Answer:** There are several very important factors which we will search out.

***Matthew 9:9-13:***

***<sup>9</sup> And as Jesus passed forth from thence, He saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and He saith unto him, Follow Me. And he arose, and followed Him.***

***<sup>10</sup> And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with Him and His disciples.***

***<sup>11</sup> And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto His disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?***

***<sup>12</sup> But when Jesus heard that, He said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.***

***<sup>13</sup> But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.***

1. Sitting at the Receipt of Custom (Matthew is a tax collector just like Zacchaeus, but in this case Zacchaeus is his boss — the big cheese, the head honcho over the tax collectors), and Jesus said unto him, “FOLLOW ME!!!” And he arose, and followed Jesus. And it came to pass as Jesus sat at meat in the house (note -

this is Matthew's humble and self-effacing manner of recording the incident; for it was actually at his own home that this incident is occurring).

**Luke 5:27-32:**

***27 And after these things He went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and He said unto him, Follow Me.***

***28 And he left all, rose up, and followed Him.***

***29 And Levi made Him a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them.***

***30 But their scribes and Pharisees murmured against His disciples, saying, Why do ye eat and drink with publicans and sinners?***

***31 And Jesus answering said unto them, They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick.***

***32 I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.***



Zacchaes must have learned of Matthew's conversion experience, for he lost one of his tax collectors.

**Matthew 21:31b-32:**

***31b Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.***

***32 For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe Him.***

**This is a very powerful revelation which shows that genuine repentance provides the way for God to place saving faith into the hearts of sinners so they can take the second step toward being saved and becoming followers of Christ.**

2. The scribes and Pharisees are seeking to insult the Lord Jesus.

***Luke 15:2: And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.***

They thought to turn the Jewish people — and especially the Scribes, Pharisees, and Sadducees — away from the Lord Jesus by that old adage or axiom or

proverb: *You can judge a man by the company he keeps; or, birds of a feather flock together.* So, they are telling the people that Jesus is at home with sinners because He is just like them.



However, instead of this slur against Christ hurting Him, it helped Him to gain the love, respect, and endearment of most sinners. For these Pharisees said:

***Matthew 11:19: The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children.***

This saying touched the hearts of sinners and made them want to come to Jesus instead of it driving them away from Him.

3. Then, there is another factor which very likely had a great impression upon Zacchaeus. It was the miracle which the Lord Jesus performed on the blinded eyes of Bartimaeus. He was a beggar who sat on the highway side pleading with the passersby to give him a handout. This miracle happened right here at Jericho and is recorded in the **Book of Luke**.

***Luke 18:35-43:***

***<sup>35</sup> And it came to pass, that as He was come nigh unto Jericho, a certain blind man sat by the way side begging:***

***<sup>36</sup> And hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant.***

***<sup>37</sup> And they told him, that Jesus of Nazareth passeth by.***

***<sup>38</sup> And he cried, saying, Jesus, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me.***

***<sup>39</sup> And they which went before rebuked him, that he should hold his peace: but he cried so much the more, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me.***

***40 And Jesus stood, and commanded him to be brought unto Him: and when he was come near, He asked him,***

***41 Saying, What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee? And he said, Lord, that I may receive my sight.***

***42 And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy faith hath saved thee.***

***43 And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God.***



Here we have the experiences of the very poor and the very rich in side by side chapters.

Learning of the miracle working power of the Lord Jesus had to have had a profound influence upon the life of Zacchaeus, the tax collector. For, no longer was he there at that spot begging. What is more, the testimony of blind Bartimaeus was heard throughout the city as he glorified the Lord for showing forth His healing power on those dead eyes. Zacchaeus was very anxious to see the Lord Jesus, so he runs up the street till he comes to a sycamore tree and decides to climb up into it so he can see the Lord Jesus from that vantage point.

## **ZACCHAEUS THE TREE CLIMBER**

Normally, rich people are not noted for climbing trees. They are not famous for getting up a tree. Since Zacchaeus is also a Roman official, he is too stiff and starchy to want to mess up his pretty clothes climbing trees. I know a lot of people who are saved from their sins, but not yet saved from their starchiness and stiffness, or, literally, their pride.

## **ZACCHAEUS OVERCOMES HIS HANDICAPS, HIS DIFFICULTIES, AND HIS OBSTACLES.**

1. One handicap was his stature, for he was short of stature. He does not allow that to get in his way. That is the reason for his running on ahead and climbing up into this Sycamore tree.



## 2. HIS SOCIAL HANDICAP — He is a PUBLICAN (not a Republican)

Zacchaeus is a social outcast and esteemed by most of his fellow citizens as a traitor to the nation of Israel. He is despised of the people for working for the Roman government as their tax collector. He is in an official position also to train other men in the tricks of the trade. We learn the contempt which the Scribes and Pharisees, in particular, had for these publicans when they accuse the Lord Jesus of being a friend of theirs, and that He even eats with them, for they would never think of doing such a thing. No decent person would ever be a guest in his home.



**Question:** Do you know what? There are many social outcasts who are pushed and driven into deeper sin and immorality when other people think the worst of them, expect the worst out of them, and even tell them so. Most people go further in the wrong direction when people believe the worst about them. People have no confidence in a sin-stained person, and that sinner then feels like they are a hopeless case, and more quickly go to the dogs. This is especially true of those who are thieves and money grabbers. Some do it at the point of a gun, while others do it at the point of a pencil. The latter often get by with their crimes for they become greedy for gain.

**The Scriptures warn us against such dangers. Judas lost his soul over money. A covetous person is counted by God as an idle worshipper, which is one of the lowest sins.**

ZACCHAEUS the Publican helped a foreign nation, the Roman Empire, which conquered the Holy Land to collect taxes for them. That is why he incurred the wrath of his own people.

**(a) *Ephesians 5:3: But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;***



***Ephesians 5:5: For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ and of God.***

**(b) *1 Timothy 3:3: Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;***

***1 Timothy 3:8: Likewise must the deacons be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;***

**(c) *1 Peter 5:2: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;***

**(d) *1 Timothy 6:9-10:***

***<sup>9</sup> But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.***

***<sup>10</sup> For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.***

Zacchaeus was a money man which contributed to his becoming a social outcast and a despised man.

3. The third handicap — Zacchaeus had a moral handicap. He was a sinner.

**Living a clean, moral life is too hard to accomplish if a person is a sinner by nature and by practice.**

**Living a clean, moral life is too hard to accomplish if a person is a sinner by nature and by practice. Self-respect is what most people desire, but living respectably is not so easy to come by. A sinner loves sin like a hog loves slop.**

**He is no different from all the rest of us unless we have been redeemed by the precious Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Until we are born again and saved from our sins, all of us are sinners by nature and by practice, for so says the Word of God.**

**(a) *Romans 3:10: As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:***

**(b) Romans 3:23: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**

**(c) Isaiah 53:6: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on Him [Jesus] the iniquity of us all.**

**(d) 1 John 1:8: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.**

That is the bad news; but there is also GOOD NEWS and it is in our Text — **Luke 19:10**. We'll come to that later in this message. However, here is how it all begins:

**Luke 19:10: For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.**

## **THE GREATEST SOUL-WINNER**

The Lord Jesus Christ gives us another example of His expertise in: HOW TO WIN THE LOST and HOW SINNERS CAN BE TRANSFORMED into saints.

**If a fisherman desires to catch fish, he or she must go where they are. The Lord Jesus came to where Zachaeus was — up a tree. All of us are UP A TREE, as it were, figuratively speaking, until we get saved from our sins. Zachaeus could not get to Jesus, but the Lord Jesus can get to him. Many of us, before we were saved from our sins, were in the same kind of situation. Our sins had separated us from the Lord, and we all need to know this.**

**Listen:**

**(a) Isaiah 59:1-2:**

**<sup>1</sup> Behold, the LORD's Hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear:**

**<sup>2</sup> But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His Face from you, that He will not hear.**

**(b) Exodus 33:7: And Moses took the Tabernacle, and pitched it without the camp, afar off from the camp, and called it the Tabernacle of the**

**congregation. And it came to pass, that every one which sought the LORD went out unto the tabernacle of the congregation, which was without the camp.**

WHY? Because of the people's sins, God ordered it.

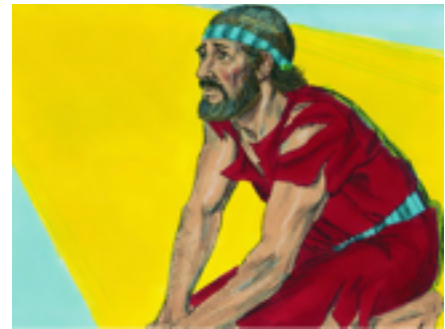
**(c) Deuteronomy 23:14: For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that He see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.**

**(d) Joshua 7:10-12:**

**<sup>10</sup> And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face?**

**<sup>11</sup> Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed My Covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff.**

**<sup>12</sup> Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you.**



**(e) Judges 16:20: And she said, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him.**

**(f) Revelation 18:4-5:**

**<sup>4</sup> And I heard another voice from Heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.**

**<sup>5</sup> For her sins have reached unto Heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.**

**TEXT:** *Luke 19:10: For the Son of Man is come to SEEK and to SAVE that which was LOST.*

**Question:** How did the Lord Jesus reach and win Zacchaeus and save him from his sins?

**Answer:** Jesus went where Zacchaeus was and then, looking up into the tree, said:

***Luke 19:5b: Zacchaeus!!! MAKE HASTE!!! and COME DOWN!!! For today I MUST abide at thy house.***

WHAT!!! The Lord Jesus: THE SELF-INVITED GUEST??? The Lord Jesus did a most unusual thing. He invited Himself to this sinner man's home. This is the first and only record that I can recall recorded where He did such a thing. In other instances, Christ went where He was invited to come.

**Question:** Why?

**Answer:**

- (a) **It is divine love which motivated Him. Every soul, every person is very precious in the Lord's sight.**

**Every soul, every person is very precious in the Lord's sight.**

***Isaiah 43:4: Since thou wast precious in My sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.***

We are unique, irreplaceable, valuable, and immortal.

***John 3:16: God SO loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life***

- (b) The Lord Jesus came to Zacchaeus as a self-invited guest because the nation of Israel rejected him, would have nothing to do with him, and made him an outcast. He was hated and despised, and felt that nobody loved him or wanted anything to do with him.

The Lord Jesus won him by loving him, and let him know it in this way: that our Lord is willing to go to his home and fellowship with him. HE is willing to

bear the criticism and condemnation of the people of Jericho for going home with this Publican. Christ, in this way, is letting Zacchaeus know that He does not despise him, nor hate him, nor reject him. This touches this rich man's heart as nothing else could do.

- (c) Thirdly, we must remember that the Lord Jesus is royalty clothed in humanity. He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Zacchaeus is one of His subjects. The Lord has the right to choose to go where He wills to go.

### **APPLICATION:**

You, who are born again Christians here, should know that God has a special purpose in our salvation experience. He has *ordained that we should be:*

***Romans 8:29: For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the Image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brethren.***

***2 Peter 1:4: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious Promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the Divine Nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.***

***Hebrews 12:10: For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of His Holiness.***

**Summing up these three Scriptures, this means, that we are to act like the Lord acts in relationship with lost sinners. We are to love them as our Lord does; since we are partakers of HIS DIVINE NATURE. We are not to go around with a holier than thou attitude. That is what the Pharisees were doing in relationship to sinners. This is a NO, NO!!!**

**QUESTION:** Does this love also include the rich and the wealthy?

**Answer:** ABSOLUTELY!!!

**Question:** Why did The Lord Jesus say: How hard it shall be for them that have riches to enter into The Kingdom of God.

**Mark 10:23: And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto His disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the Kingdom of God!**

**Question:** Why did the Lord say?

**Mark 10:25: It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God.**



**Answer:** Please do not slide by and skip the middle verse which says a mouthful.

**Mark 10:24: But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the Kingdom of God!**

Zacchaeus passed the test in **Luke 19:8** when he said:

**Luke 19:8: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.**

His trusting in his money ceased here. If Zacchaeus was trusting in his money, he would never had said these words nor made this promise. Here is a very wealthy man who got gloriously saved. When we get genuine salvation, it looses the strings on our billfold and pocketbooks. We are no longer greedy and covetous of filthy lucre. We now love the Lord more than material things. We are changed from getters to givers!!!



**Question:** Is this so in your life?

**Answer:** It was so in the life of Joseph of Arimathea who begged Pilate for the body of the Lord Jesus after His crucifixion, and he buried — royally buried — the Lord in his new sepulcher which was elaborate and hewn out of stone.

**Luke 23:50-53:**

**<sup>50</sup> And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just:**

***51 (The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) he was of Arimathaea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the Kingdom of God.***

***52 This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus.***

***53 And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid.***



He was filthy rich.

***Matthew 27:57-60:***

***57 When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple:***

***58 He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered.***

***59 And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth,***

***60 And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.***

OOOPPPS!!!

I'm getting just a little ahead of the circumstances in the conversion of this Publican. Let's go back to where the Lord Jesus tells Zacchaeus to make haste and come down?



***Luke 19:5: And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for today I must abide at thy house.***

**Answer:** This is Zacchaeus' alter call. The Lord Jesus knows that the first thing the devil will plant into the minds of sinners is: PUT IT OFF!!! DON'T RUSH

into this religious experience until you have thoroughly checked it out.

**Procrastinate. For He well knew that many have been caught in this trap and ended up in Hell for delaying getting right with God.**

**The longer we put off getting saved, the more sins we will have committed. The more sins we commit, the Harder our Hearts will become. Then, the further we get away from a sensitive conscience and Holy Ghost conviction. We can have our consciences seared as with a hot iron.**

***1 Timothy 4:2: Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;***

The Pharisees experienced this when contemplating stoning of the woman as recorded here:

***John 8:9: And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.***



When they were convicted of their own consciences, they put off salvation and blew it for time and eternity.

This is the very reason why such Scriptures as the following were placed in our Bibles.

**(a) Hebrews 3:7-11:**

***<sup>7</sup> Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, Today if ye will hear His voice,  
<sup>8</sup> Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness:***

***<sup>9</sup> When your fathers tempted Me, proved Me, and saw My works forty years.***

***<sup>10</sup> Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known My ways.***

***<sup>11</sup> So I swear in My wrath, They shall not enter into My rest.)***

**(b) Hebrews 4:7: Again, He limiteth a certain day, saying in David, Today, after so long a time; as it is said, Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts.**



**(c) 2 Corinthians 6:2: (For He saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the Day of Salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the Day of Salvation.)**

Make haste and “COME DOWN!!!” We have to COME DOWN before we can go up. God’s way UP is down. Down, that is, to the mourners bench, down to the altar of prayer, down on our knees is the way to get much closer to The Lord. God resists the proud but He gives grace to the humble.

**(a) Psalms 95:6: O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.**

**(b) Romans 14:11: For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God.**

**(c) Philippians 2:9-11:**

**<sup>9</sup> Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a Name which is above every name:**

**<sup>10</sup> That at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in Heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;**

**<sup>11</sup> And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

## **Zacchaeus’ RESPONSE TO THE ALTAR CALL**

**TEXT: Luke 19:6: And he made haste, and came down, and received Him joyfully.**



**Answer:** Instead of rejoicing and being glad, they gripped, belly-ached, grumbled and complained, and found fault.

**Question:** Is it possible that some of you who call yourselves Christians are critical about some sinners or backsliders? Do you become critical if some drunkard, or barhop, or prostitute, or dope fiend, or homosexual, or gambler, or thief, or liar,

or murder come into your church or are at the altar?

**Answer:** Yes, we have had some in our church who were very upset when we had drunks come into our services, and also when some adulterers, adulteresses, and divorced persons with a live-in-mate came. Some members thought the presence of these people would contaminate the church.

The conversation of some church members is addressed in the following Scripture::

***Isaiah 65:5: Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou. These are a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day.***

WHAT A SIGHT!!!

Zacchaeus came to the church service alone, but he did not leave there alone. There we see the Lord Jesus, the Creator of this Universe, the Son of God, the Saviour of the world, walking up the street side by side with this Publican sinner, headed for Zacchaeus' home. In the background, both can hear the ill sounding murmurings of the crowd which did not like what they were seeing. Jesus is a friend of Publicans and sinners. He is your Friend also, if you are an unsaved person today.

On His way to this Publican's home, the Lord Jesus preached to him The Gospel. The Gospel is the GOOD NEWS which Apostle Paul joyfully said:



- (a) Romans 1:16: For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.***
- (b) Mark 1:15: And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Gospel.***
- (c) Matthew 24:14: And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.***

**Question:** What is the definition of the Gospel?

**Answer:** ***1 Corinthians 15:3-4:***

*<sup>3</sup>For I delivered unto you first of all that which also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures;*

*<sup>4</sup> And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures:*

**(d) Romans 10:11-15:**

*<sup>11</sup> For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed.*

*<sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him.*

*<sup>13</sup> For whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.*

*<sup>14</sup> How then shall they call on Him in Whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in Him of Whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?*

*<sup>15</sup> And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!*

## **ZACCHAEUS GOT GLORIOUSLY SAVED !!!**

Dr. Luke who records the conversion and salvation of this Publican named Zacchaeus, does not tell us if it happened on his way home or after they got into the house, but this we know that he did get genuinely born-again. The Lord Jesus can and will save us anywhere. It does not have to be in a church service; but it can be anywhere and anytime we PRAY THE SINNERS PRAYER.

**The Lord  
Jesus can  
and will  
save us  
anywhere.**

**Question:** Are you a Christian, a minister, a missionary, an elder, or deacon in the church?

**Answer:** Then let us make our way to show hospitality to the poor, the rich, the outcasts, those sunken deep in sin, and those who feel abandoned, rejected and despised. They need a Saviour and you could be God's vessel in bringing them to Christ.

**Question:** How do we know that Zacchaeus got gloriously saved?

**Answer:** How testimony and confession tells it all, and The Lord Jesus confirms it.

***Luke 19:8: And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord: Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.***

Zacchaeus calls Christ Jesus “Lord.” That is a very good start,



***1 Corinthians 12:3: Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.***

***John 8:3-11:***

***<sup>3</sup> And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto Him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst,***

***<sup>4</sup> They say unto Him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act.***

***<sup>5</sup> Now Moses in the Law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest Thou?***

***<sup>6</sup> This they said, tempting Him, that they might have to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down, and with His finger wrote on the ground, as though He heard them not.***



***<sup>7</sup> So when they continued asking Him, He lifted up Himself, and said unto them, he who is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.***

***<sup>8</sup> And again He stooped down, and wrote on the ground.***

***<sup>9</sup> And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.***

***<sup>10</sup> When Jesus had lifted up Himself, and saw none but the woman, He said unto***



***her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?***

***<sup>11</sup> She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.***

**Our personal confession is vitally important to our salvation experience.**

Listen to what God's Word says:

**(a) Romans 10:9-10:**

***<sup>9</sup>That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.***

***<sup>10</sup> For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.***

**(b) Matthew 10:32-33:**

***<sup>32</sup> Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in Heaven.***

***<sup>33</sup> But whosoever shall deny Me before men, him will I also deny before My Father which is in Heaven.***

**Question:** What is the affect of this confession of Zacchaeus?

**Answer:** I'm sure that there were many who could hardly believe what their ears were hearing. This pinch penny!!! This thief!!! This scoundrel and reprobate who is only known to take from people, but is now giving half of his wealth to the poor!!! That is unbelievable and incredible!!! For that is what the Law of Moses required in Exodus to pay back double.



**Exodus 22:1-7:**

***<sup>1</sup> If a man shall steal an ox, or a sheep, and kill it, or sell it; he shall restore five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.***

***<sup>2</sup> If a thief be found breaking up, and be smitten that he die, there shall no blood be shed for him.***

***<sup>3</sup> If the sun be risen upon him, there shall be blood shed for him; for he should make full restitution; if he have nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.***

***<sup>4</sup> If the theft be certainly found in his hand alive, whether it be ox, or ass, or sheep; he shall restore double.***

***<sup>5</sup> If a man shall cause a field or vineyard to be eaten, and shall put in his beast, and shall feed in another man's field; of the best of his own field, and of the best of his own vineyard, shall he make restitution.***

***<sup>6</sup> If fire break out, and catch in thorns, so that the stacks of corn, or the standing corn, or the field, be consumed therewith; he that kindled the fire shall surely make restitution.***

***<sup>7</sup> If a man shall deliver unto his neighbour money or stuff to keep, and it be stolen out of the man's house; if the thief be found, let him pay double.***

The **Book of Numbers** required 20%:

***Numbers 5:5-8:***

***<sup>5</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,***

***<sup>6</sup> Speak unto the children of Israel, When a man or woman shall commit any sin that men commit, to do a trespass against the LORD, and that person be guilty;***

***<sup>7</sup> Then they shall confess their sin which they have done: and he shall recompense his trespass with the principal thereof, and add unto it the fifth part thereof, and give it unto him against whom he hath trespassed.***

***<sup>8</sup> But if the man have no kinsman to recompense the trespass unto, let the trespass be recompensed unto the LORD, even to the priest; beside the ram of the atonement, whereby an atonement shall be made for him.***

***Ezekiel 33:15: If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life, without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die.***

## **THE LORD JESUS CONFIRMS HIS SALVATION**

**Text: Luke 19:9-10:**

***<sup>9</sup> And Jesus said unto him, This Day is Salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.***

***<sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.***

**Question:** What does the Lord Jesus mean by those words: “Forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham?”

**Answer:** Turning to **Romans 4:11**, we are told that:



***Abraham is the FATHER of all them that believe.***

In verse 15 we're told:

***. . . but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham.***

***Galatians 3:29: And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the Promise.***

**HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE THE LORD TO SAVE US?**

Zacchaeus got saved that very day, that very afternoon, or that very evening.

Over 3,000 precious souls were saved after hearing Simon Peter's sermon:

***Acts 2:14-41:***

***<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:***

***<sup>15</sup> For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.***

***<sup>16</sup> But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel,***

***<sup>17</sup> And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:***

***18 And on My servants and on My handmaidens I will pour out in those days of My Spirit; and they shall prophesy,***

***19 And I will shew wonders in Heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:***

***20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come:***

***21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.***

***22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by Him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:***

***23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:***

***24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that He should be holden of it.***

***25 For David speaketh concerning Him, I foresaw the Lord always before My face, for He is on My Right Hand, that I should not be moved:***

***26 Therefore did My heart rejoice, and My tongue was glad; moreover also My flesh shall rest in hope:***

***27 Because Thou wilt not leave My soul in hell, neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption.***

***28 Thou hast made known to Me the ways of life; Thou shalt make Me full of joy with Thy countenance.***

***29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the Patriarch David, that He is both dead and buried, and His sepulchre is with us unto this day.***

***30 Therefore being a Prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to Him, that of the fruit of His loins, according to the flesh, He would raise up Christ to sit on His Throne;***

***31 He seeing this before spake of the Resurrection of Christ, that His soul was not left in Hell, neither His flesh did see corruption.***

***32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.***



***33 Therefore being by the Right Hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the Promise of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.***

***34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto My Lord, Sit Thou on My Right Hand,***

***35 Until I make Thy foes Thy footstool.***

***36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made the same Jesus, Whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.***

***37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?***

***38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.***

***39 For the Promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the LORD our God shall call.***

***40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.***

***41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.***

**Saul of Tarsus was saved on the road to Damascus.**



**Acts 9:3-22:**

***3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from Heaven:***

***4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?***

***5 And he said, Who art Thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.***

***6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.***

***7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.***

***8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.***

***9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.***

***10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And He said, Behold, I am here, Lord.***

***11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,***

***12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.***

***13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to Thy saints at Jerusalem:***

***14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on Thy Name.***

***15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear My Name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:***

***16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for My Name's sake.***

***17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.***

***18 And immediately there fell from his***



*eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.*

*<sup>19</sup> And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.*

*<sup>20</sup> And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God.*

*<sup>21</sup> But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this Name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?*

*<sup>22</sup> But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.*

**The Ethiopian Eunuch was saved on his way home from Jerusalem under the ministry of the evangelist Philip.**

**Acts 8:30-39:**

*<sup>30</sup> And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?*



*<sup>31</sup> And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.*

*<sup>32</sup> The place of the Scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before His shearer, so opened He not His mouth:*

*<sup>33</sup> In His humiliation His judgment was taken away: and who shall declare His generation?*

*for His life is taken from the earth.*

*<sup>34</sup> And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of Whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?*

*<sup>35</sup> Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same Scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.*

***36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?***

***37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.***

***38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.<sup>39</sup> And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.***



**The Philippian jailer was saved in the middle of the night.**

***Acts 16:31: And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.***

**Note:** In the former years, The Methodist preachers were called “THE NOW” preachers. That is because they believed that God can save you **right now**, on the spot, where you repent of your sins and believe in and receive Christ as your personal Saviour.

**Question:** Where did they get that idea?

**Answer:** From the Bible.

***2 Corinthians 6:2: (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the Day of Salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the Day of Salvation.)***

Think of this!!! The thief on the cross:

***Luke 23:39-43:***

***39 And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on Him, saying, If Thou be Christ, save Thyself and us.***

***40 But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?***

***41 And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.***

***42 And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom.***

***43 And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with Me in paradise.***



## **RESTITUTION is a NECESSARY EVIDENCE of SALVATION**

When we get right with God, then we want to be right with our fellowman whom we've wronged. It was most amazing, and seems almost too good to be true, that Zacchaeus would offer to make any and all wrongs right with his nation.

### **The LORD JESUS taught RESTITUTION:**

**(a) *Matthew 5:23-24:***

***23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee;***

***24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.***

**Question:** How can you or I have genuine salvation and still keep in our possession things that rightfully belong to another person or persons?

**Answer:** It cannot be done!!! The Lord Jesus puts His stamp of approval and sanction on restitution when this crooked tax collector promises to pay up and clean up his back-racks or cheating and taking from others to satisfy his greed for money.

**(b) *Exodus 22:1-5:***

***1 If a man shall steal an ox, or a sheep, and kill it, or sell it; he shall restore five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.***

***2 If a thief be found breaking up, and be smitten that he die, there shall no blood be shed for him.***

**<sup>3</sup> If the sun be risen upon him, there shall be blood shed for him; for he should make full restitution; if he have nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.**

**<sup>4</sup> If the theft be certainly found in his hand alive, whether it be ox, or ass, or sheep; he shall restore double.**

**<sup>5</sup> If a man shall cause a field or vineyard to be eaten, and shall put in his beast, and shall feed in another man's field; of the best of his own field, and of the best of his own vineyard, shall he make restitution.**

**(c) Genesis 20:7: Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine.**

**(d) Leviticus 6:4-5:**

**<sup>4</sup> Then it shall be, because he hath sinned, and is guilty, that he shall restore that which he took violently away, or the thing which he hath deceitfully gotten, or that which was delivered him to keep, or the lost thing which he found,**

**<sup>5</sup> Or all that about which he hath sworn falsely; he shall even restore it in the principal, and shall add the fifth part more thereto, and give it unto him to whom it appertaineth, in the day of his trespass offering.**

**(e) 1 Samuel 12:2-5:**

**<sup>2</sup> And now, behold, the king walketh before you: and I am old and grayheaded; and, behold, my sons are with you: and I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day.**

**<sup>3</sup> Behold, here I am: witness against me before the LORD, and before His anointed: whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? and I will restore it you.**

**<sup>4</sup> And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us, neither hast thou taken ought of any man's hand.**

***<sup>5</sup> And he said unto them, The LORD is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day, that ye have not found ought in my hand. And they answered, He is witness.***

**(f) Numbers 5:5-8:**

***<sup>5</sup> And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,***

***<sup>6</sup> Speak unto the children of Israel, When a man or woman shall commit any sin that men commit, to do a trespass against the LORD, and that person be guilty;***

***<sup>7</sup> Then they shall confess their sin which they have done: and he shall recompense his trespass with the principal thereof, and add unto it the fifth part thereof, and give it unto him against whom he hath trespassed.***

***<sup>8</sup> But if the man have no kinsman to recompense the trespass unto, let the trespass be recompensed unto the LORD, even to the priest; beside the ram of the atonement, whereby an atonement shall be made for him.***

**(g) Proverbs 6:30-31:**

***<sup>30</sup> Men do not despise a thief, if he steal to satisfy his soul when he is hungry;***

***<sup>31</sup> But if he be found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the substance of his house.***



**(g) Exodus 18:5-7:**

***<sup>5</sup> And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, came with his sons and his wife unto Moses into the wilderness, where he encamped at the mount of God:***

***<sup>6</sup> And he said unto Moses, I thy father-in-law, Jethro, am come unto thee, and thy wife, and her two sons with her.***

***<sup>7</sup> And Moses went out to meet his father-in-law, and did obeisance, and kissed him; and they asked each other of their welfare; and they came into the tent.***

**ILLUSTRATION:**

1. A man wrote to the U.S. Treasury Department saying: “Here is the \$60.00 I cheated you out of on my income taxes. I have not been able to sleep at nights over this. If this doesn’t help me to get a good night’s sleep, I’ll send you the rest.”
2. The Title to this newspaper report in the Gannett News Service reported by John Teare is: Conscience Speaks Loudly. He reports that the U.S. Treasury Department has a special fund called Conscience Fund. It started in 1978 and has now accumulated over \$35,000,000.00.
3. Ann Landers wrote this in her daily column in the Akron Beacon Journal in Section 8-4 dated June 25, 1979 entitled: stop punishing yourself!!!

Quote; “I’m the guy who just turned 17, and I committed a terrible act with our pet and I’m in an awful mental state. The fear of becoming a homosexual terrifies me. I would rather die. The memory of my behavior seems to be in my mind constantly. I began attending church more often to see if that would help. Confession is out of the question. I couldn’t get the words out.”

Signed: *Counting on you.*

This is Ann Lander’s response:

“I certainly don’t condone such experimentation. Would you feel better if I told you that what you did is not uncommon? Many young people experiment with pets — not only boys, but also girls. I’ve received dozens of letters from females who want to know if they can become pregnant by a dog. The answer is: NO!!! The act you describe is called Bestiality and has nothing to do with homosexuals. I hope you won’t think I betrayed you by printing this letter. No way could it be traced to you. GUILT often makes people feel that everyone is suspicious of them. Now that you have the facts, I hope you will stop punishing yourself. Worrying takes a lot of energy that could be better spent on something constructive.”

**FOOTNOTE:**

**This is not the boy punishing himself. It is God Almighty’s built in preacher, better known as *Conscience*. The Lord set up Conscience’s pulpit in our hearts to convict us of wrongdoing. The best way to silence your conscience is to repent of the**

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wrongdoing, make it right with God by begging for mercy, forgiveness, pardon, and cleansing by trusting in the merits of Calvary for a clean heart. When we confess our sins and forsake them, and make restitution to any one whom we have wronged, then, and only then, is our Conscience silenced.

## INVITATION:

If you have never been saved from your sins, or if you have committed sins after you have been saved and have not gotten them forgiven, turn to the Lord and let this scripture be your guide to forgiveness and a restored fellowship with the Lord.

***1 John 1:9: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.***

If, however, anyone hearing or reading this message and is not a truly born-again Christian, here are the five simple steps to becoming a genuine believer in Christ:

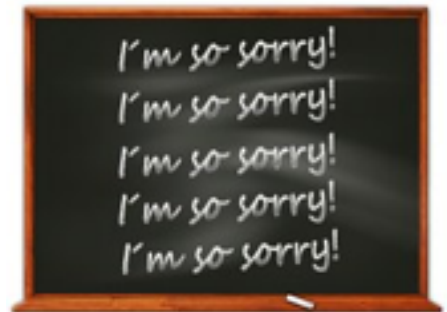
### 1. REPENT of all your sins, is the first necessary step to Salvation.

***Matthew 9:13 : But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.***

***Mark 1:15: And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Gospel.***

***Acts 17:30: And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:***

***Acts 20:21: Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.***



### 2. Step Number Two Is BELIEVE

***Acts 16:31: And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.***

*Believe in* means to rely on, trust in, depend upon Jesus' sacrificial death on the Cross where He paid all of the world's sin debt for us out of love and mercy to us. Trust in His precious Blood for cleansing according the Word.



***Romans 3:25: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His Blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;***

***Revelation 1:5-6:***

***<sup>5</sup> And from Jesus Christ, Who is the faithful witness, and the first Begotten of the dead, and the Prince of the kings of the earth. Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His Own Blood,***

***<sup>6</sup> And hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.***

***1 Peter 1:18-19:***

***<sup>18</sup> Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;***

***<sup>19</sup> But with the precious Blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:***

**If you are having any difficulties in believing on the Lord Jesus, the problem will be solved by completely confessing all your sins and repenting of them.**

***Matthew 21:32: For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.***

**3. Step Number Three is: CALL UPON THE LORD JESUS To Save You.**

***Acts 2:21: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the Name of the Lord shall be saved.***

**Romans 10:13: For whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.**

#### **4. Step Number Four is: RECEIVE HIM**

**John 1:12: But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name:**

#### **5. FINALLY, CONFESS HIM**

**Romans 10:9-10:**

**<sup>9</sup>That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.**

**<sup>10</sup>For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto Salvation.**



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