Luke 19.1-27 "While you were gone...." GOSPEL is full of SURPRISES – Begins Old Priest and Wife have SON – JOHN Young VIRGIN Girl has SON who is Son of DAVID – Son of GOD 1st VISITORS invited to see INFANT KING: OUTCAST, Unclean SHEPHERDS 1st SERMON in Hometown – People MARVEL at Words > Then try to KILL Him DINNER Parties w/ IMPORTANT People – INSULTS them – NOT WASH Right Aspires to be RELIGIOUS Leader CLOSEST FRIENDS are very IRRELIGIOUS DEFIES Natural Order – Deaf HEAR – Blind SEE – Lame WALK - DEAD Live CLOSEST Followers NO CLEAR UNDERSTANDING – Who He is, What'll Do

18 Chapters of SURPRISES > ONE thing we EXPECT > Jesus **for** UNDERDOG Sees those UNSEEN – BEGGARS, BLIND, WOMEN, CHILDREN, OUTCASTS Entered IMPORTANT City of JERICHO – described by Jews as 'Little Paradise' City: PALM Trees, ROSE Gardens, Grand WINTER Palace, HIPPODROME

LARGE CROWD filled Streets of Jericho to SEE – Jesus: Man of SURPRISES Whole PARADE STOPS – Crowd gets SILENT – Jesus stops LOOKS up TREE that LITTLE BOY said was an EASY ONE to CLIMB LITTLE BIG MAN – Everyone KNOWS – Everyone PASSIONATELY HATES NOBODY'S UNDERDOG – Treated Everyone as DOG – Nothing ADMIRABLE REEKED of ABUSIVE POWER ,UNBRIDLED CORRUPTION, DECADENCE Rotten MAN wanted to SEE JESUS – Surprise!! Jesus wants to SEE HIM! Jesus: **"Hey HOMEBOY – I'M gonna CHILL in your PAD TONIGHT!"**

SHOCKED CITY – More SILENT – Then MUTTERING, DISGUST Filled Air Story CENTER Piece of LUKE – SHINY DIAMOND of SURPRISING GRACE THEME Verse of BOOK – Hangs like BANNER over this Jericho CITY-SCAPE GOLDEN Band LIFTS UP Diamond > Parable of MINAS/Pounds 3 mos. Wage v. 11 While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable...

2 Great Stories – Both VITAL to Luke's Message – Struggled to make 1 Sermon CONTEXT says we should HOLD TOGETHER – Will preach for 2 Hours!

a. Jesus on Earth: Our Kingdom Come...Now!

As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. Luke 9.51

Luke gives FEW GEOGRAPHIC Markers > THEOLOGICAL Journey

JOURNEY > 10 Chapters and MORE than ONE YEAR of Jesus Ministry

NOT Long TIME because of LONG DISTANCE - Small Jewish TERRITORY

NOT Many MILES > BUT many MISUNDERSTANDINGS

Disciples SLOW! SO the COMMUTE had to be EVEN SLOWER

NEAR to DESTINATION > Disciples FAR from UNDERSTANDING Him

Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, spit on him, flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again." The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about. Luke 18.31-34

v. 1 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. / Geographic HEAD'S UP

JERICHO - 20 kms - VERY SOON will enter Jerusalem

JERICHO - Major Road - TOLL STATION > TAX COLLECTORS at ENTRY

WHAT will happen in Jerusalem?? - Jews Political & SPIRITUAL Capital

NOT Sure WHAT – Jesus has been FULL of SURPRISES – All along the Journey

Jesus DESCRIBES self w/ KINGLY Titles - Son of Man/David - Messiah/Christ

v. 11 While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable, because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once.

Even AFTER Jesus Death and Resurrection – Closest Followers Still CONFUSED the apostles he had chosen....asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" Acts 1.6

RESTORE = Expecting a POLITICAL, TERRITORIAL Kingdom

ISRAEL = Expecting a NATIONAL Kingdom

AT THIS TIME = Expecting IMMEDIATE ESTABLISHMENT of Kingdom

Their stupidity is incredible. They had been carefully taught for three whole years, yet were as ignorant as if they never heard a thing! There as many errors in this question as words! John Calvin

b. Jesus in Heaven – His Kingdom: Now and Not Yet

Luke's Audience > Small, Struggling Church – Opposed in Roman Empire

Today BILLIONS NOT Follow Him - MAYBE 1 Billion "Christians" / 5 B. NOT

HOW do Christians live DURING this ABSENCE of the KING??

What KIND of KINGDOM this?? NO ONE Sees KING - Rarely any EVIDENCE

v. 14"But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, `We don't want this man to be our king.'

Now v. 15 He was made king, however, and returned home.

Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, `Here it is,' or `There it is,' because **the kingdom of God is within you.**" Luke 17.20,21

FOCUS of Scripture NOT on Visible Kingdom with King PHYSICALLY Present

DEPARTED KING - When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven.

24.50,51

WANTS Followers to CLEARLY SEE He is GONE

CENTER of the KINGDOM is HEART > King IN RESIDENCE There

SALVATION > SUBMITTED to SOVEREIGN Rule of the KING

Not Yet v. 11 ... the people thought kingdom of God was going to appear at once.

UNBRIDLED JOY of Disciples AFTER He was NO LONGER with Them Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God. Luke 24.52,53

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. Luke 24.45

The Kingdom of God is Spiritual in Character

MOST Ears 'Spiritual Kingdom' = UNREAL > Fairies, Fairy Tales, Legends

SPIRITUAL - NO Physical Expression - No Flags, Buildings, Armies, People

Kingdom of God = God's TRUTH, Not TERRITORY

= God's RULE, Not REALM

= God's PEOPLE, Not PLACE

Luke

Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. 1 John 3.2

2. The Salvation

a. Shameless Sinner ROMAN TAXES CAUSED MUCH PAIN

1) Abuse v. 2b "CHIEF tax collector" > T.C.'s Despised by the Jews in Palestine

MESSAGE OF JOHN THE BAPTIZER TO TAX COLLECTORS -"Don't collect any more than you are required to" Luke 3:13 BECAUSE THEY DID! INCREASED their PAY by INCREASING PAIN!

Collected money to support oppressive colonial power

PAID FEE TO ROMANS TO BUY COLLECTION RIGHTS

"CHIEF TAX COLLECTOR" Other collectors under him - HE TOOK CUT

"Woe to him who piles up stolen goods and makes himself wealthy by extortion!

Habakkuk 2:6

c) Regular contact with Gentiles, CEREMONIALLY UNCLEAN

TAX COLLECTORS = "sinners" "harlots" and "gentiles"

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM - Zacchaeus UNREACHABLE - Too Bad for God

LUKE > RICH AND POWERFUL has Always meant LOST

2) Affluence v. 2 "he was wealthy" = NO NEED FOR GOD

RICH YOUNG RULER CHOSE MONEY INSTEAD OF CHRIST -When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth.18:23

VERSE Rarely quoted by PROSPERITY Teachers: Proverbs 11:4 Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

While nothing of the private life of Zacchaeus is revealed in the story, this much we know from principle: no one can be privately righteous while participating in and profiting from a program that robs and crushes other persons. Such dichotomous thinking has been a blight on the church throughout its history, especially in those times and places in which individualism has dominated over community and the sense of being members of one another. Fred Craddock

3) Arrogance vs. 3,4 He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of crowd So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see

MIDDLE EAST - IMPORTANT PERSON NOT RUN - CLIMB TREES - for Boys NO Shame - "Who cares what people think about me?" - FLAGRANT

TEMPTATION FOR THE RICH: Command those who are rich in this present world *not to be arrogant* nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God 1 Timothy 6:17

the unrighteous know no shame Zephaniah 3:5 Did Not care PEOPLE'S OPINION > Great DISCIPLE - Become Christ's Fool

b. Seeking Savior

 Present v. 5 "Z., come down immediately. I must stay at your house today"
WERE there NO PRIESTS, RABBI'S, OR RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE IN JERICHO?
God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. 2.11

Jesus in Nazareth: "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." Luke 4.21

Jesus "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23.43

TODAY - Salvation PRESENT - NOW - OPPORTUNITY to Repent & Believe

TODAY is the DAY of SALVATION - NOW is the TIME

Zacc. NO TIME TO CLEAN UP HIS HOUSE - No Time to Find NEW JOB

Jesus INVITES TO COME AS WE ARE - NOT to CLEAN UP OUR ACT

UNASKED - JESUS STOPS AND TALKS TO ZACCHAEUS

UNASKED - JESUS OFFERS TO BE THE GUEST IN A SINNER'S HOUSE

UNASKED - JESUS CHANGES HIS SELFISH HEART

2) Perception JERICHO VIEW OF CHIEF T.C.: v. 7 a 'sinner'

Jesus did not need man's testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man. John 2:25 VIEW OF JESUS: v. 9 a son of Abraham.

Abraham - IDOL WORSHIPPER BECOMES MAN OF FAITH

Salvation is by Grace - FREE GIFT OF GOD

THERE IS NO PERSON TOO BAD FOR SALVATION

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations Romans 4.18

In every work there must be a beginning, and in spiritual work that beginning may be very small. Do we see a careless brother beginning to use means of grace, which in time past he neglected? Do we see him coming to church and listening to the gospel after a long time away? When we see such things let us remember Zacchaeus and be hopeful. Let us not look coldly on him

because at present his motives are very poor and questionable. Let us believe it is far better to hear the gospel out of mere curiosity, than not to hear it at all. J. C. Ryle

Jesus sees TRUE MEANING of Zacc = THE RIGHTEOUS ONE

Jesus stayed away from SIN but always stayed CLOSE to SINNERS

Jesus RESPECTED SINNERS but REJECTED their SIN > STAYS in Home of Z.

What GOES on in THAT House – godless house visited by HOLY GOD

Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart. 1 Sam 16:7

3) Purpose >> Defining Passage of Luke - PRIMARY MISSION

v. 5 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. *I must* stay at your house today."

Theme Verse of Luke - 19.10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost." vs. 5,10 I must stay at your house today...Today salvation has come to this house

Jesus COMES /SALVATION Comes, KINGDOM of God Comes /KING in House

I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Luke 5:32

Jesus:"How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God." Luke 18:23-25

It is clear that tax collectors take on the importance they have in the Gospels precisely because they are such striking examples of the surprising grace that constitutes the very essence of Jesus' message. Donald Hagner

DAY OF THE LORD HAS COME - "I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me." Isaiah 65:1

4) Peristroika: Persuasive power of Invisible Kingdom

Jewish Religious LEADERS Simple View of WORLD > Z. is LOST

Jewish Blood but NOT Jewish BEHAVIOR - NOT Good Enough

The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: `God, I thank you that I am not like other men--robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' Luke 18.11,12

Z – NOT HUMBLE Tax Collector – CHIEF – HEAD OF TAX MAFIA! Salvation of Z – Personal, Domestic, Social, Economic, TRANSFORMATIONAL "Faith that does not purify the heart and life, is not faith at all. Grace that cannot be seen, like light, and tasted like salt, is not grace but hypocrisy. The person who professes to know Christ and trust in him, while clinging to sin and the world, is going down to hell with a lie in his hand. The heart that has really tasted the grace of Christ, will instinctively hate sin." J. C. Ryle

vs. 5-8 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.' " But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

SALVATION not Just PERSONAL and PRIVATE > Peristroika = Radical Change

True JUSTIFICATION leads to DOING JUSTICE and PREACHING GRACE

If there was any doubt Zacchaeus meant what he said, his pocketbook spoke volumes.

Darrell Bock RECEIVES Jesus, REPAYS Victims - RESTORES Just Order - RIGHT NOW

GENUINE BELIEF in Jesus > Visible EVIDENCES of Jesus' KINGDOM

BEGINS in HEART of Zacc > EXTENDS to NEWLY OPENED HOME for Jesus

TURNED FROM SELFISHNESS TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

FROM GREED TO GENEROSITY

Was MASTERED by MONEY - Now JESUS is MASTER of his MONEY

Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ...willed that the whole life of believers should be repentance. Martin Luther, Thesis 1 of 95 Theses, Wittenberg

STOPS the TRAFFIC in CITY of JERICHO

Repentance SHAKES the whole CORRUPT TAXATION STRUCTURE

IMPACTS the COMMERCIAL World of JERICHO

Important Highway – TRADE Center – IMPACTS Entire LOCAL ECONOMY

Story carried throughout ROMAN EMPIRE by Spirit-filled author Dr. LUKE

News shaped EUROPE - AMERICAS - Reading today 2010 in BEIJING

KINGDOM IS NOW and NOT YET > Begins INSIDE – CHANGES EMPIRES

3. The Sovereign

HEROD'S son ARCHELEUS - built MAGNIFICENT PALACE in JERICHO

4 AD – Herod Great died – Struggle for SUCCESSOR

HEROD – Title – Kings appointed by ROME to be King of Jews – Hated half Jews Archelaus > ROME beg Caesar to be CROWNED Next HEROD – Limited TITLE 50 Jews also appeared before Caesar, REJECTED Archelaus Don't Want him King A. Back – award ETHNARCHY not Kingdom Embarrassed but ENRAGED 1st PASSOVER of his RULE he SLAUGHTERED 3000 JEWS Familiar STORY – Basis of Jesus PARABLE – KING who WENT AWAY

a. Appointed vs. 11,15 people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once...He was made king

v. 12 have himself appointed king and then to return.

Luke records MESSAGE OF PETER ON PENTECOST

God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear...Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ. Acts 2:32,36

b. Concealed v. 12 went to a distant country - LONG GONE!!

God put everything under Jesus feet." In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him. Hebrews 2.8

Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ ... we ask you, brothers, not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. 2 Thessalonians 2:1

WORLD'S CALENDAR - A.D. "Anno Domini" - "in the year of the Lord"

Chinese Dynasty - Year New one BEGINS - becomes YEAR 1

TO Mao tse-Tung - subjects asked "what year is it?" - 1949

KINGDOM OF CHRIST IS EXPRESSED IN SUFFERING OF HIS PEOPLE

NOT REALM,, BUT RULE - IN HIS PEOPLE'S LIVES

SEE OBEDIENT CHRISTIAN - SEE KINGDOM OF GOD

c. Opposed v. 14 But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king'

DONE BY THE JEWS TO ARCHLAUS - he was not made king

We are SERVANTS of OPPOSED, REJECTED King

TRUE and RIGHTEOUS KING, has TRULY UNRIGHTEOUS SUBJECTS

GOD LAUGHS AT HIS ENEMIES: Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One. "Let us break their chains," they say, "and throw off their fetters." The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill."Psalm 2:1-6

4. The Servants

a. Invest v. 13 So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.'

SAME AMOUNT – ONE BASIC TASK > LIVE OUT OUR FAITH

CONTRA – Matthew 25 – DIFFERENT Amounts = DIFFERENT ABILITIES

POINT > Something EVERY Servant HAS BEEN Given > WORD of GOD

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Genesis 1:28

I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. Luke 16.9

Jesus: "The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things." Luke 24.46-48

FAITHFUL COURIER OF THE GOOD DEPOSIT

EXAMPLE of Jesus in Jericho > Message to Z. is Our MESSAGE to WORLD

GREAT NEWS – Son of Man COME – Seek & Save LOST – Repent & Believe

b. Endure v. 27 those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them

Verse filled with PARADOX – But TRUE to LIFE: A great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me. 1 Corinthians 16:9

ENDURE - OPPORTUNITY IN THE MIDST OF ADVERSITY

ONE FOLLOWS THE OTHER Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 5:9-10

Late 1700's young English Baptist Minister - William Carey

Read wonders of exploration of India in London Times

RESOLVED TO GO TO INDIA AND PREACH THE GOSPEL

BIGGEST OPPONENTS?? - Fellow Baptist ministers

"If God wants to save those people, he'll do it without you"

EVERY GENERATION has its SADUCCES - MAINTAIN STATUS QUO

5. The Sentence

a. Fruitful given More vs. 16,17 "The first one came and said, Sir, YOUR mina has earned ten more.' "Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. ...you have been trustworthy in a very small matter

OUR GIFTS AND TALENTS BELONG TO HIM

The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it. 1 Thessalonians 5:24

REWARD is NOT REST but OPPORTUNITY for WIDER MINISTRY v. 17 "Well done, my good servant !' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.'

ONE WHO WRAPPED IT IN A PIECE OF CLOTH – LOSE ALL – Give Away vs. 24-26 "Then he said to those standing by, 'Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.' "'Sir ' they said, 'he already has ten!' "He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away.

Jesus looking for GOSPEL VENTURE Capitalists - Invest for HIS GLORY

Won't WASTE Treasure of Kingdom with those who HIDE IT IN A CLOTH

Either USE the GOSPEL or you will LOSE THE GOSPEL True as a PERSON – FAMILY – and CHURCH Are we PROTECTING the GOSPEL or PAYING IT FORWARD for Blessings

Moses regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. Hebrews 11:26

Moravian Missionary to South Africa - George Smith - thought DIED FAILURE

Short time in country - 1 Convert - Old Woman - Smith FORCED OUT

DIED ON HIS KNEES PRAYING FOR AFRICA

Later: Village heard Old Woman - READ Bible Smith gave Her - 13,000 Believed

b. Unfaithful lose All

vs. 20-23 "Then another servant came and said,'Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. {21} I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you

did not put in and reap what you did not sow.' {22} "His master replied, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?'

NOT even minimum Requirement for SAFETY > BURIAL in the EARTH

Like ADAM in GARDEN > Blames MASTER for his OWN Failures

LISTEN to SELF > Knows MASTER Severe Lit. "Get BLOOD out of STONE" CONDEMNED by OWN WORDS > Does NOT KNOW how GOOD God IS

I am this day 58, but how little I have done for God. William Carey, letter to his son on his birthday

SERVANT WHO FORGOT THEIR RESPONSIBILITY

"The real tragedy in life is not being limited to one talent, but in the failure to use the one talent." Hudson Taylor

Don't have much money > Cannot give ANY to God > Z. gave till it HURT

What else would you call a servant who refused to obey his master's command, slandered his master's good name, and was so scared of making a mistake that he failed to do what he was supposed to do? According to Jesus, it is wickedness. Philip Ryken

c. Unstoppable - King is Coming

v. 27 But those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and kill them in front of me."

He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. 2 Thessalonians 1.8-10

OH the PIECES of CLOTH GOD'S PEOPLE HAVE HIDDEN HIS TALENTS IN! What HAPPENED to SERVANT who HID TALENT IN CLOTH?? WERE THEY SAVED OR LOST?? WHY ASK?? NOT ANSWERED in Text WHY PLAY ON THE BOUNDARY?? – Maybe SAVED thru Fire – 1 Corinth 3 Maybe LOST FOREVER in ETERNAL FIRE SOME ASK "How much can I get away with and still be saved?" QUESTION - Shows no love for Jesus, no zeal for his honor, no desire for his glory, no sensitivity to his pain

WHY RISK WALKING ON THE OUTER BOUNDARIES OF GOD'S GRACE?

WE MUST FEAR FALLING OVER THE EDGE

Wycliffe Bible Translators BRAZIL > "JESUS" film into MAMIANDE Language Many Native Speakers need to FILL ROLES of READERS of Gospel Characters Ch 19 – Only ONE MAMIANDE Man not spoken yet – WORST Man in Village Everyone Considered him THIEF – O.K. – 'You read the part of Zac on Jesus film' First Takes could not read words Properly – "I STOLE" said "HE STOLE" Movie Premier – Whole Village – 2 Hours of Jesus – END with Grim CROSS/Res THIS Mamiande Z. stood with TEARS – Confessing Sin and CLAIMING CHRIST

¹Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ²A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. ⁵When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. ⁷All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.' " ⁸But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek and to

save what was lost." ¹¹While they were listening to this, he went on to tell them a parable. because he was near Jerusalem and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once. ¹²He said: "A man of noble birth went to a distant country to have himself appointed king and then to return. ¹³So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.' ¹⁴"But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him to say, 'We don't want this man to be our king.' ¹⁵ "He was made king, however, and returned home. Then he sent for the servants to whom he had given the money, in order to find out what they had gained with it. ¹⁶"The first one came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned ten more.' ¹⁷" 'Well done, my good servant!' his master replied. 'Because you have been trustworthy in a very small matter, take charge of ten cities.' ¹⁸"The second came and said, 'Sir, your mina has earned five more.' ¹⁹"His master answered, 'You take charge of five cities.' ²⁰"Then another servant came and said, 'Sir, here is your mina; I have kept it laid away in a piece of cloth. ²¹I was afraid of you, because you are a hard man. You take out what you did not put in and reap what you did not sow.' ²²"His master replied, 'I will judge you by your own words, you wicked servant! You knew, did you, that I am a hard man, taking out what I did not put in, and reaping what I did not sow? ²³Why then didn't you put my money on deposit, so that when I came back, I could have collected it with interest?'²⁴"Then he said to those standing by, 'Take his mina away from him and give it to the one who has ten minas.' ²⁵" 'Sir,' they said, 'he already has ten!' ²⁶"He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away. ²⁷But those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them-bring them here and kill them in front of me."