

ZACCHAEUS

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Zacchaeus started life as a little baby boy.



**But as other boys grew bigger,
he didn't grow very much at all.**



**Perhaps others picked on him
because he was smaller.**



**So when he grew up, he was going to get his own back!
He became a TAX collector!**



**Nobody liked tax collectors.
They worked for the Roman authorities,
ruling their country.
They took your money that you owed the Romans
and then some more for themselves.**



**So little Zacchaeus became very rich
and lived in a very big house.**



Nobody liked him.



But he didn't care!



**One day he heard that Jesus was coming to his town.
They said that Jesus would have a few things to say
about the way he treated people.**



**He asked his wife, what all the fuss was about.
She told him about the miracles
that were happening where Jesus went.**



“I’ll have to see this for myself.”



But there was just one problem.



**He couldn't see anything.
Everybody was taller than him.**



So he had a good idea.



Jesus will be going that way.



So he ran off down the road.



He climbed a tree.



Then he hid in the branches,



to watch Jesus as he went by.



Jesus stopped underneath the tree,



and looked up at Zacchaeus.



“Hello Zacchaeus.”



“Come down. I want to visit your home.”



“He wants to visit my home, with ME?”



He came down as fast as he could.



Then he came up to Jesus.



Everybody in the crowd was disgusted with Jesus.



**“He’s going to the house of a Sinner.
A tax collector!”**



Zacchaeus said to Jesus,

**“Right now I’ll give half of my possessions to the poor.
I’ll pay back anybody I’ve cheated four-times the amount.”**



Jesus said to him, "Today God's forgiveness and love has come to his house, because this man, too, is now one of God's people."



“Because I’ve come to search for and save those who are lost, just like Zacchaeus.”



So they set off for Zacchaeus' home.



Jesus met his family.



They had a good meal and talked a lot about God's kingdom and how to live God's way and enjoy his blessings.



**After that day, Zacchaeus was never the same again.
He was a new man.**



Now Zacchaeus was a very little man

And a very little man was he.

He climbed into a sycamore tree

‘Cause the Saviour he wanted to see,

And when the Saviour passed that way

He looked into the tree

And said, “Now Zacchaeus, you come down

For I’m coming to your house for tea.”

Luke 19:1-10

A closer look at what happened to Zacchaeus



Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy.

A wealthy tax collector is a dishonest one.



He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.



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



**How did Jesus know his name?
What effect would that have on Zacchaeus?**

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."



Is your idea of God's grace like theirs?

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord,



The difference knowing Jesus loves you makes

" 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."

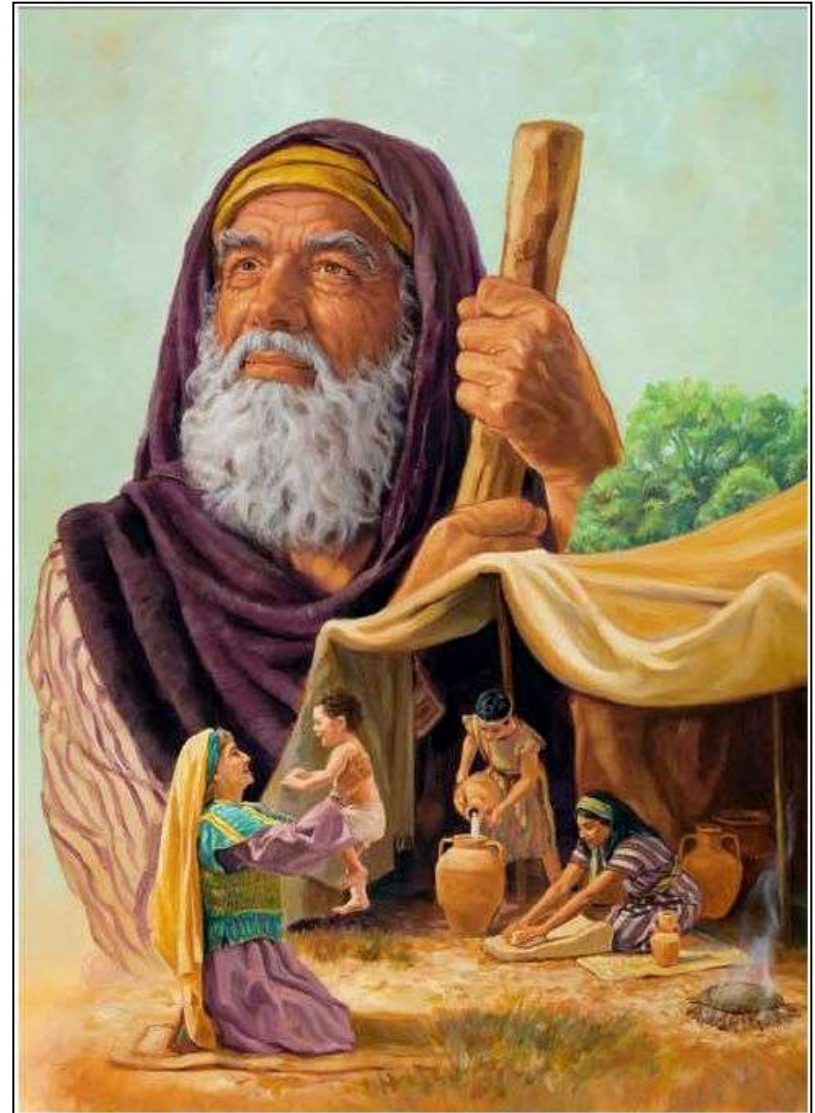


How do you know he's changed?

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.

salvation

A son of Abraham



For the Son of Man came
to seek and to save the lost.



He did not come to judge the world

He did not come to blame.

He did not only come to seek

It was to 'save' he came.

And when we call him 'Saviour'

And when we call him 'Saviour'

And when we call him 'Saviour'

Then we call him by his name.