

## **SERMON OUTLINE**

### **'PROMOTING THE GOSPEL'**

#### **Study - 4**

#### **'Sharing the gospel - the example of Jesus'**

#### **Luke 19 v1 - 10**

Key Point - We're given the gospel not just to enjoy - but to share. See - 2 Kings 7 v3 - 9.

Key Question - How did Jesus go about sharing the gospel with this man Zacchaeus? Notice.....

#### **1. THE FLEXIBILITY OF JESUS IN SHARING THE GOSPEL**

More often than not we will approach people to share the gospel with them in different ways according to who they are and where they are at.

How did Jesus deal with the Samaritan woman - John 4? By talking to her about "living water". And how did Jesus deal with Nicodemus the Pharisee - John 3? By talking to him about being "born again". Key Question - How did Jesus deal with Zacchaeus the tax collector? Again - in another way. (see - Point 3)

Key Question - What was Zacchaeus' great need? Was it emptiness - he had lots of money and yet was unfulfilled? Was it loneliness - as a tax collector he didn't have a friend in the world? No! His great need was the need of all men and women whether rich or poor - it was lostness! See - v10 & 15 v3 - 32.

#### **2. THE EXPECTANCY OF JESUS IN SHARING THE GOSPEL**

Key Point - Jesus was seeking Zacchaeus! See - v1. This is why He was going this way to Jerusalem which was neither the shortest way or the quickest way. Notice that Jesus expected to meet Zacchaeus. See - v5. Jesus knew his name! And Zacchaeus was seeking Jesus!

See - v2 - 3a. It's Jesus who comes seeking after us, and in seeking after us puts it in our hearts to seek after Him. This should surely put in our hearts a sense of real expectancy in that Jesus is already seeking after those who are seeking after Him.

*'I sought the Lord, and afterward I knew  
He moved my heart to seek Him, seeking me;  
it was not I that found, O Saviour true;  
no, I was found of Thee.'*

Note - What sort of man was this that Jesus sought and saved? He was a thoroughly nasty piece of work. He was the hardest of hard men! And yet (a lost cause though he might have been considered to be) Jesus went to the cross for him!

## **2. THE SENSITIVITY OF JESUS IN SHARING THE GOSPEL**

Key Question - What did Jesus actually do in meeting Jesus. Answer - He asked to come to his house, probably to have a meal with him! But note the urgency in this (v5) - "I must stay at you house today."

Note - The reaction of Zacchaeus. See - v6. And the reaction of the people. See - v7. And see - 15 v1 - 2. Jesus befriended the worst of the worst and the lowest of the low. This is an example of - 'the irresistible power of friendship and good food.'

Key Question - What did they talk about? Hint - see v8. They must have talked about money which was Zacchaeus' god.