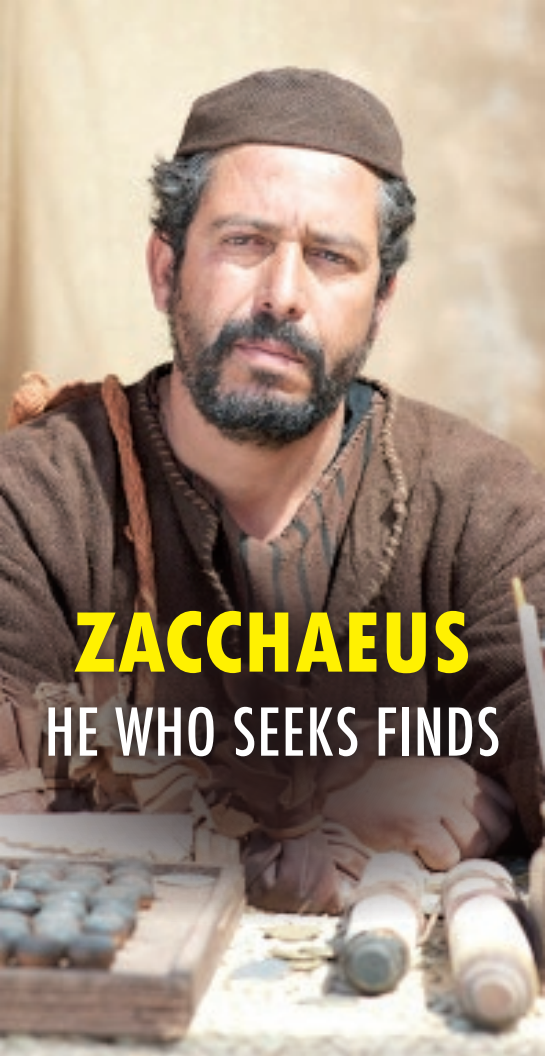




ZACCHAEUS

HE WHO SEEKS FINDS

The Bible story of Zacchaeus is found in Luke 19.1-10. If you have a Bible, it's worth reading.

Zacchaeus was saved and received forgiveness of sins, which assured his eternal destiny in Heaven. A great truth that stands out in Zacchaeus' case is: *"he who seeks finds"* (Matthew 7.8 NKJV).

Is it possible, dear reader, that you are not saved and are not certain that you will be with God because you have never seriously sought salvation?

His Need

The gospel of Luke tells us that Zacchaeus *"was seeking to see who Jesus was...so he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him"* (Luke 19.3-4 ESV). What was wrong with this man? What motivated him to run and climb a tree to see Jesus and discover who He was? It's very likely that he heard that Jesus was introducing Himself as the Messiah, the Savior of the World. Christ said, *"he who believes in Me has everlasting life"* (John 6.47 NKJV). For Zacchaeus, this person was very important. Why? Because Zacchaeus was a sinner. Luke 19.2 tells us that Zacchaeus *"was a chief tax collector, and he was rich"*

(NKJV). Tax collectors were considered traitors because they were Jews under the direction of Roman officials who charged them with collecting taxes. They were not very honorable men, as they exacted excessive sums (Luke 19.8). For this reason, the Bible emphasizes that he was rich; he had taken advantage of his position to overcharge for his own benefit. What did he need as a sinner? A Savior, and *“he who seeks finds.”*

What Zacchaeus Found

Zacchaeus, up in a sycamore tree, saw Jesus approaching him. We see that the Lord also cares for those who seek Him. Jesus said to him, *“Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today”* (Luke 19.5 ESV). What did Zacchaeus do? He could have said, “Well, I’ll stay here. I don’t need you that much. I’m not that bad. I’ll try to live a better life, thank you.” But no. It says in Luke 19.6 that Zacchaeus *“hurried and came down and received him joyfully”* (ESV). What did he find? Or rather, who did he find? His Savior. Jesus told him, *“Today salvation has come to this house”* (Luke 19.9 NKJV).

What About You?

What about your own need for a Savior? Have you sought the solution for your

sins? It is your sins and your spiritual condition that keep you from being in God's presence. *"There shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life"* (Revelation 21.27 NKJV). But *"he who seeks finds"* (Matthew 7.8 NJKV). Jesus Christ is seeking those who are lost in their sins. And when the sinner seeks the solution to their sin, they soon encounter the Savior who came *"to seek and to save that which was lost"* (Luke 19.10 NJKV).

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