

# The Gospel of Luke

## Lesson 33

As Jesus continues His journey to Jerusalem, a wealthy young leader, intending to justify himself, asks Jesus what to do to inherit eternal life. He is clearly thinking that he had done enough good, observing the requirements of the law, to merit God's acceptance. Jesus, knowing the young man's heart, puts His finger on the what is most important to him—his great wealth.

When Jesus asks him to give away his money and follow Him, the man becomes very sad. Jesus looks at him and says, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God" (Luke 18:24). Those who are rich tend to depend upon their wealth and achievements rather than upon Jesus, who is "...the way, the truth and the life." No one comes to the Father apart from Jesus (John 14:6). Peter later declares that "...there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Continuing toward Jerusalem, Jesus takes His disciples aside once more to explain that He will be handed over to the Gentiles to be mocked, tortured and killed. The disciples understood none of this.

As they approach Jericho, a blind man cries out "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy upon me." Although being told to be quiet and not to bother Jesus, the blind man calls even louder, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy upon me." Jesus asks the blind man what he wants Him to do for him. Hearing the man's request to see, Jesus says, "Receive your sight, your faith has healed you." The blind man receives sight and begins praising God as he follows Jesus.

It is notable that the blind man “saw” Jesus and recognized Him not only as the Son of David but also as One who had power to heal. He also correctly “saw” that Jesus was the Son of God in the flesh, worthy of praise and worthy to follow.

As you begin your study, ask God’s Spirit to enable you to see Jesus for who He is and what He has done on your behalf.

### **Zacchaeus the Tax Collector**

1. Read Luke 19:1-10.

A. Referring to Luke 18:18-27, compare and contrast the wealthy ruler with Zacchaeus. Note how each was similar or different to one another in the following ways:

	Ruler	Zacchaeus
(1)	Rich	
(2)	Had heard of Jesus	
(3)	Inwardly self-righteous	
(4)	Inwardly humble and curious	
(5)	Teachable	
(6)	Became aware of his sin	
(7)	Heard Jesus with Understanding	
(8)	Responded with repentance	
(9)	Rejected Jesus	
(10)	Publicly made restitution	
(11)	Found salvation in Jesus	
(12)	Went away sad	
(13)	Rejoiced in Jesus’ presence	
(14)	Proved that all things are Possible with God	

B. Refer to Numbers 5:5-7.

(1) When a person wrongs another, to whom is he being unfaithful? Who is hurt?

(2) According to the Numbers passage, that person is \_\_\_\_\_ and must confess \_\_\_\_\_.

(3) Furthermore, he must make \_\_\_\_\_.

C. From Luke 19:8, how did Zacchaeus not only meet but also exceed the requirements of the law?

D. From Luke 19:9-10, Romans 3:19-20 and Galatians 2:15-16:

(1) Upon what basis did salvation come to Zacchaeus and his house? Please explain.

(2) From the above passages and Isaiah 64:6-7, why can our “good works” and attempts to keep the law never merit justification?

(3) From Joel 2:32a, Acts 3:19-20 and 4:8-12, and Romans 10:11-13, how can anyone be saved?

E. From your own life, are there any illustrations of your making restitution that ended up being a blessing to you or others because of your salvation by Jesus? Please explain.

F. What lessons of encouragement and warning have you learned from the encounters of the rich man and Zacchaeus with Jesus? How might you apply these lessons today?

### **The Parable of the Ten Minas**

2. Read Luke 19:11-27.

A. From verse 11, why did Jesus tell the people this parable?

- B. According to Luke 24:15-27 and 44-49, what events and work needed to be accomplished before the kingdom of God could come in glory?
- C. From the above verses and your knowledge of Scripture, in what sense has the kingdom of God already come? In what sense has the kingdom of God yet to appear in fullness and glory?
- D. From Luke 19:12, who is the “man of noble birth”?
- E. From Luke 19:13, who are the “servants”?
- F. What does the nobleman give the servants?
- G. How much was a mina worth?
- H. On whose behalf were the servants to invest the money?

I. Refer to Matthew 7:12 and Luke 6:31. If money is a metaphor for the talents, gifts and abilities God has given us, how should we employ them? To whom should we dedicate them? For whose glory are we to use them? For whose blessing are they?

J. From Luke 19:14, what attitude do the servants have toward the man of noble birth?

K. From Luke 19:15-27:

(1) Comment upon the following for each of the three servants in the story: attitude, effort, result, reward/judgment, nobleman's evaluation.

First Servant

## Second Servant

## Third Servant

- (2) From Luke 19:26-27, what is the very sobering judgment for the servant who failed to use his gifts? What is the result for the enemies of the nobleman who did not want him to be their king? How might you apply lessons from this parable to your own life?