

# Seeing the Harvest

Luke 19: 1-10

v. 1-2, 10

- Revelation: He is the Lord of the Harvest
- Request: Help us to see the entire harvest: the cursed, the despised, the hard of heart, and those we deem beyond Christ.

v. 3-4

- Revelation: He's the God of Compelling Testimony that draws the world.
- Request: Forgive us for conflicting with your testimony; Help us to align our lives with your compelling testimony.

v. 5-6

- Revelation: He's the God who calls individuals by name.
- Request: Help us see and connect with those you are calling. Supernaturally draw people to yourself and their Kingdom purpose.

v. 5-6

- Revelation: He's the eternal God, driven by the urgency of eternity.
- Request: Forgive us for ignoring the urgency of eternity. Return us to a sense of eternity that motivates us to act today.

v. 7-8

- Revelation: He's the Great Redeemer; He redeems people, resources, reputations; He can redeem what we see as beyond redemption.
- Request: Give us compassion for what you want to redeem and help us to be open to how you want to redeem. Make us agents of redemption.

v. 7-8

- Revelation: He's the Resourcing God.
- Request: Help us to see that the resources to advance the mission of Christ are found in the harvest; even found among the things we have despised and rejected.

v. 9-10

- Revelation: He's the Great Teacher; He challenges our ideas.
- Request: Teach us a proper perspective on the harvest; Correct wrong perceptions of the harvest and my/our role in your mission.

v. 10

- Revelation: He is the God of Strategic Vision.
- Request: Grant us the discipline and strength to align our lives with your strategic vision.

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## Talking Points

- Jericho was a cursed city and Zacchaeus was a despised man because he was not just a tax collector, he was **the** chief tax collector. Jesus was not afraid to go to the cursed places or engage the despised and rejected from every walk of life for the sake of eternity.
- Zacchaeus had not met Jesus. He, like so many others, had heard about Jesus. Jesus' reputation and testimony compelled people to want to see him. He had a compelling testimony that drew people from all walks of life and situations.
- There was an urgency that drove Jesus to meet with Zacchaeus. As far as we know this was the only time that Jesus ever interacted with Zacchaeus, he was adamant about that he respond then and that they go to his house then. "Today is the day salvation." Heaven and hell seemed to be in the balance.
- Zacchaeus was despised and many thought that he wasn't worth Jesus' time...they wanted Zacchaeus to change first and then be worthy of spending time with the teacher. Instead Jesus showed that he and others were not beyond salvation and redemption.
- Zacchaeus was a man of means and poor reputation. When he responded to Christ not only was his life redeemed for the eternity, but also his financial resources and eventually his reputation were redeemed. His testimony was one of a man who was transformed.
- Zacchaeus' resources were redirected to advance the mission of Christ. Jesus had to be at work in the harvest field to meet him in a way that led to his resources being turned to the kingdom rather than his own ends.
- Jesus responded to the mockers by showing them that Zacchaeus was one of them. He had the same rights to salvation as they did. They only saw Zacchaeus' involvement with the Roman government and no longer saw him as a Jew. Jesus had to correct their thinking.
- Zacchaeus was a "son of Abraham." He was one of their own nation; one of their neighbors. We must do evangelism, reaching those in our own neighborhood, city, and nation; not just missions to the rest of the world. Reaching the lost must be a both/and, not an either/or.
- Jesus' mission was to redeem and save mankind, nothing more and nothing less. His mission was in place from the beginning of time until today. The Lord put a strategy in place that he is still "working." We need to work his strategy, not our strategy. We need to work on his mission, not our mission. When we do his mission and plan we will accomplish the parts of our plans that actually matter for eternity.