

Series: The Gospel of Luke

Sermon: Two Guys No One Cared About

**Passage: Luke 18:35-19:10 (ESV)**

Illustration:

Need: Jesus proves again the purpose of His coming was to restore and transform the broken and despised.

**I. The restoration of the broken. (18:35-43)**

- A blind man (Bartimaeus in Mark 10; one of two in Matthew 20) was begging along the road to Jericho.
- He began screaming undeterred by the crowd asking Jesus for mercy as the Messianic “Son of David.”
- Jesus restored the man’s sight and he immediately began following Jesus and rejoicing in God.
- **Lessons to learn:**
  1. Jesus never ignores the sincere cries of those who call upon Him in faith.
  2. Healing miracles demonstrate Jesus’ power but represent deeper spiritual brokenness.
  3. Jesus was always the most compassionate one in the crowd.
  4. Genuine faith will always lead believers to follow.

**II. The transformation of the repentant. (19:1-10)**

- A rich “chief tax collector,” Zacchaeus, desired to see Jesus as he moved through the city of Jericho.
- He was a short man and could not see so he went ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree.
- Jesus stopped and invited himself to the house of Jericho’s Public Enemy #1. The crowd grumbled.
- Zacchaeus responded to Jesus through repentance and confession and was marvelously saved!
- Zacchaeus also demonstrated his faith by over restoring those he had cheated caring for the needs of the poor with the riches he possessed.
- **Lessons to learn:**
  1. Jesus seeks out the “worst” of sinners.
  2. Jesus wades out into the mire of a sinner’s life to bring salvation to them.
  3. Salvation results in transformation. It may be slow but it will not be absent.
  4. It’s never too late to make things right and it’s always the right thing to do.
  5. Admitting wrongs should be normal practice for believers. We don’t boast in our sin but in God’s forgiving and transforming grace.

**III. Our ongoing, Jesus representing responsibility as His Church:**

1. **REACH** - seeking the lost and sharing the good news of salvation by faith in Jesus crucified and risen.
2. **TEACH** - instructing believers how to obey God’s word and live their lives as representatives of Jesus.