

3. In the tenth verse Christ seems clearly to indicate the class to which Zaccheus belonged.

Question 3. *Why is emphasis laid upon the fact that Zaccheus was "a son of Abraham?" Did the salvation of Zaccheus depend upon his descent from Abraham?*

Zaccheus was chief among the oppressive tax-gatherers, and was despised by his own countrymen as the representative of aliens. Christ emphasizes that he is a true son of Abraham and on his way to Abraham's bosom. His neighbors ought to rejoice rather than murmur that salvation had come to his house, for they were all children of one father. His salvation, however, did not depend upon his ancestry, but his repentance and faith in the Son of God. All who believe are children of faithful Abraham, and heirs according to the promise.

Question 4. *What is meant by the title "the Son of man," as applied to Jesus? Why is that title used in this place?*

1. By his self-chosen title, "the Son of man," he owns his parentage in the human race. As surely as he was the "Son of God," so surely and deeply was he the Son of humanity. The race has only produced one such Son. As a Son he was devoted beyond all others to his Father in heaven; as the Son of humanity he was equally devoted and faithful to the race of man. Moses was faithful as a servant in all his house; but Jesus as Son in the house of humanity was beyond measure obedient and true. 2. Because the Jews had sunk the manhood of Zaccheus in their dense prejudice against his occupation. By this "title" Jesus touches him into life with a drop of true brotherliness. Zaccheus instantly responded to the touch.

Analytical and Biblical Outline.

A Son of Abraham.

I. HIS HINDRANCES.

1. *Chief among the publicans.* v. 2.
Eateth . . . with publicans. Luke 7. 34.
Sinners to repentance. Matt. 9. 13.
2. *He was rich.* v. 2.
How hardly . . . that have riches. Luke 18. 24.
Temptation and a snare. 1 Tim. 6. 9.

II. HIS EARNESTNESS.

1. *Sought to see Jesus.* v. 3.
With my whole heart. Psalm 119. 10.
2. *Ran . . . and climbed up.* v. 4.
Do it heartily. Col. 3. 23.

III. HIS PROMPTNESS.

1. *Make haste . . . came down.* v. 6.
Made haste and delayed not. Psalm 119. 60.

2. *Received him joyfully.* v. 6.

Gladly received his word. Acts 2. 41.

IV. HIS LIBERALITY.

The half of my goods. v. 8.

Charge them that are rich. 1 Tim. 6. 17.
More blessed to give. Acts 20. 35.

V. HIS JUSTICE.

If I have taken . . . restore. v. 8.

To do justly. Micah 6. 8.

Learn to do well. Isa. 1. 16, 17.

VI. HIS SALVATION.

Salvation come to this house. v. 9.

They which are of faith. Gal. 3. 7.

Came to save sinners. 1 Tim. 1. 15.

Thoughts for Young People.

Conditions of Friendship with Jesus.

1. *Friendship with Jesus is not conditional upon respectability of character.* For Zaccheus's reputation was evidently bad, and his business was so shameful as to make him a social outcast.

2. *Friendship with Jesus is not conditioned upon precious purity of heart.* For Zaccheus had been unscrupulous in the collection of taxes, and nobody would have thought of him as being the purest man in that "city of priests." The pure Christ chose him, nevertheless, to be his host.

3. *Friendship with Jesus is not always initiated by public demonstrations.* "Kneeling at the altar" and similar manifestations are unspeakably helpful as steps toward that friendship; but it is a thing of the heart, and begins in one's inner consciousness far beyond the range of others' eyes. "Publicans" and "sinners," whom we despise, may, at this very moment, unseen by us, be eagerly climbing into positions whence they may see the Lord when he shall "pass that way."

4. *No one can win the friendship of Jesus who does not feel his lost condition.* Christ came to seek and to save the lost. The self-righteousness of the Pharisee practically excludes him from the circle of Jesus's friends.

5. *No one can win the friendship of Jesus who does not greatly desire it.* With what haste Zaccheus descended the tree and ran to his home to welcome the Lord! Our Lord's friendship is not thrust upon anyone against his will.

6. *Friendship with Jesus cannot be maintained without conformity to his lofty law of justice.* It was a matter of course that the repentant and saved Zaccheus returned, with lavished interest, the wealth he had unjustly taken. A true Christian man cannot consciously wrong others.

7. *No true friend of Jesus can be unsympathetic, or stingy, or self-centered.* Benevolence to the needy was as direct an outcome of Zaccheus's conversion as was justice to his business associates.