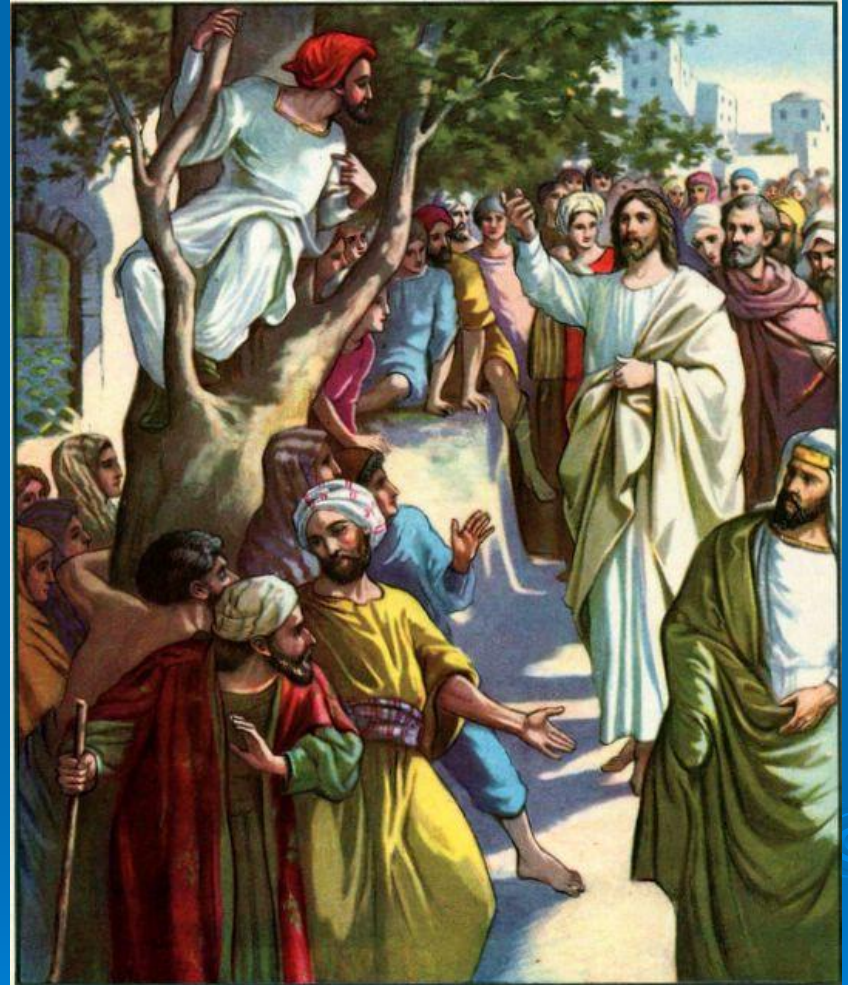


**“Today
salvation
has
come to
this
house”**

Luke 19:9



Examining the Path to Salvation in Zacchaeus' story

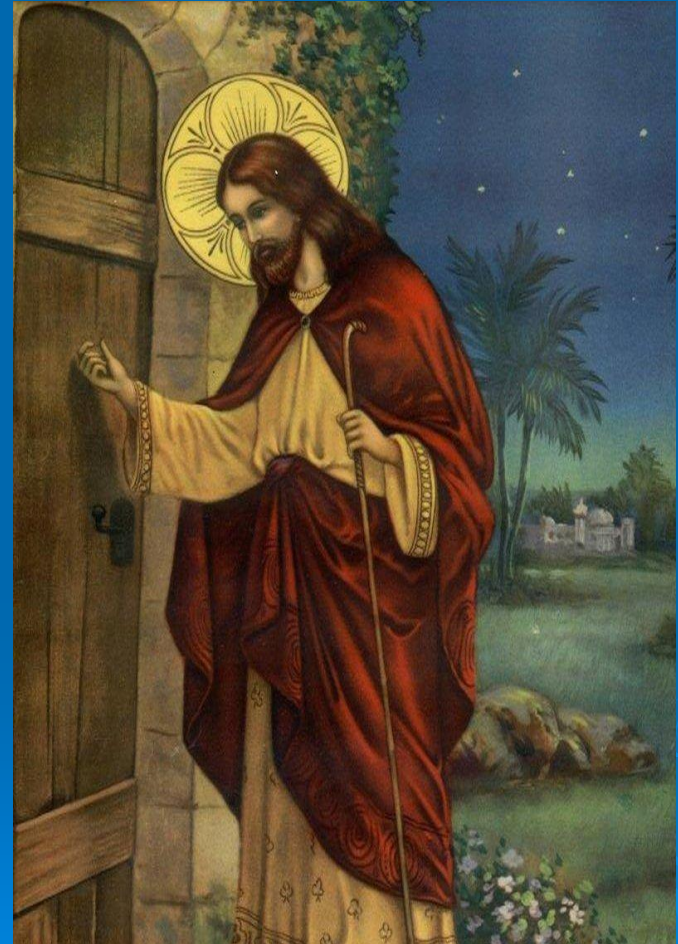


I. The inner work of God in man's heart ⁽¹⁾

- “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me”

Revelation 3:20

- “Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart” *Acts 2:37*



I. The inner work of God in man's heart ⁽²⁾

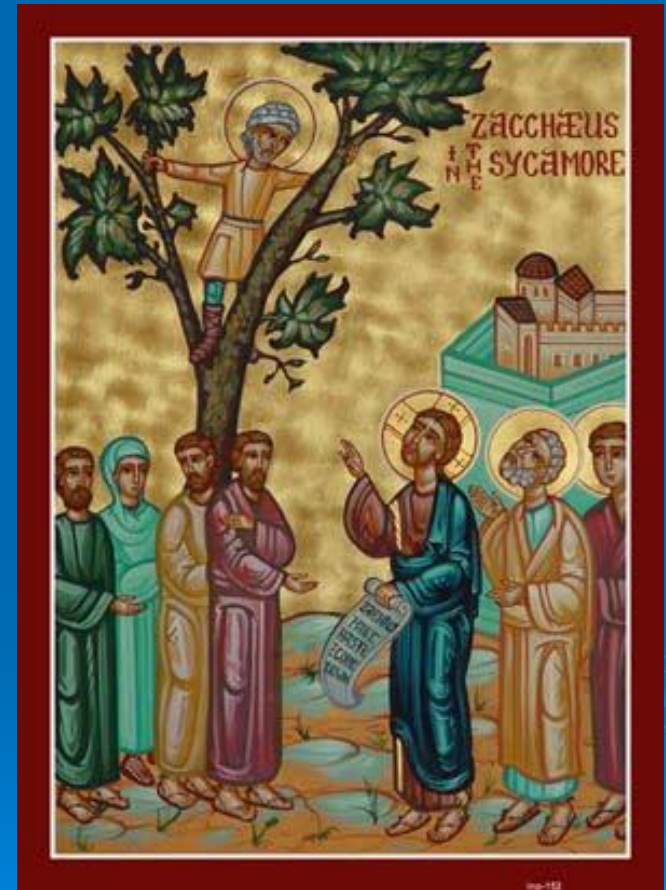
- “Now as he reasoned about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come, Felix was afraid”

Acts 24:25



II. Zacchaeus' first response ⁽¹⁾

- “And he sought to see who Jesus was” *Luke 19:3*
- Realizing the vanity of this passing world
- Longing to examine and see who Jesus is
- Not surrendering to difficulties or finding excuses



III. God's reaction to Zacchaeus' move ⁽¹⁾

- “And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house’” *Luke 19:5*
- God immediately returns to man as He sees him coming back to Him.



III. God's reaction to Zacchaeus' move ⁽²⁾

- Now the relationship is personal and the Lord made it known to Zacchaeus that He recognized his effort.



IV. Zacchaeus' second response: Receiving Him with joy ⁽¹⁾

- “So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully” *Luke 19:6*
- At this stage, the spiritual practices are easier and they stir a delight in the heart of man.
- Only God at this stage is sufficient for the longing soul.



IV. Zacchaeus' second response: Receiving Him with joy ⁽²⁾

- “The kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men”

Romans 14:17-18



IV. Zacchaeus' second response: Receiving Him with joy ⁽³⁾

- Amma Syncletica said, “In the beginning there are a great many battles and a good deal of suffering for those who are advancing towards God and, afterwards, ineffable joy. It is like those who wish to light a fire. At first they are choked with smoke and cry, until they obtain what they seek. So we also must kindle the divine fire in ourselves through tears and hard work.”



V. The temptations stage ⁽¹⁾

- The war at this stage might be launched from any direction.
- “But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, “He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.”

Luke 19:7



V. The temptations stage ⁽²⁾

- External opposition by others, internal thoughts about the past, various doubts along with many other distractions will try to hunt the individual's soul in order to discourage it.



VI. Zacchaeus' final step: Cleansing of the heart ⁽¹⁾

- Zacchaeus knew that the Lord desired his heart, not just a visit to his house.
- He was ready to accept the “Loss” to come to the knowledge of Christ.



VI. Zacchaeus' final step: Cleansing of the heart ⁽²⁾

- His focus on the Lord helped him in overcoming the grumbling of the crowd against him.
- It is the stage where the Cross is embraced with great love

