

Repentance - Part 3

by David Smithers

To truly experience peace and prosperity, we must surrender to God and allow Him to have control in our lives.

Duration: 14:44

Scripture: Matthew 6:28-33, Luke 19:2, Luke 19:7-9

Topics: "Repentance", "Surrender"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher focuses on the story of Zacchaeus and his encounter with Jesus. He emphasizes the importance of recognizing Jesus as the King and being hungry for Him. The preacher highlights the idea that we cannot serve two masters, either we serve God or we serve money. He encourages the listeners to surrender their hearts completely to Jesus in order to experience true peace. The sermon also emphasizes the importance of repentance and bearing fruit in response to salvation, using Zacchaeus' example of giving to the poor and restoring what he had taken unjustly.

Transcript

No one can serve two masters. No one can serve two kings. For either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other.

You cannot serve God and mammon. That's another word for money. Hey, did you notice those words are in red? That's the words of God right there.

You can't have two masters. You know what? We serve a God who is the king of a wonderful kingdom. He is the prince of peace.

But you know, if the prince isn't ruling in our hearts, if he doesn't have absolute control, should we really be confused why peace isn't flowing richly in our life? Therefore, I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds. Look at them.

Look at the birds of the air. For they neither sow nor reap or gather into barns, yet the heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Is that awesome, you guys? Which of you, by worrying, can add one cubit of this statue? See, what I'm not suggesting here, what Jesus is, He is by no means suggesting that, oh yeah, just throw everything away so I can crush you, so I can make you do without.

That is not what the Word of God is saying here. He's saying, I want to be king. You must only trust in Me.

Until you trust in Me absolutely, utterly, I can't do in your life what I long to do. I can't deliver you in the way that I want to. Verse 28, So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow, neither toil nor spin.

And yet I say to you that even Solomon in his glory, what a rich man, what a wise king, was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? Trust. Trust the King.

Therefore, do not worry, saying, What shall we eat? Or what shall we drink? Or what shall we wear? For after all these things that Gentiles seek, those who are far off from God, He's talking about here, those who are strangers to God, they're the ones that worry and fret. They're the ones that trust in riches, not the children of God. For your Heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

He understands it. He's not suggesting that He make you a pauper for the sake of making it hard for you. But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Awesome, isn't it? One more verse. I really like this. Luke 19.

Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. This guy worked for the IRS, right? They don't have any problems, do they? And he sought to see who Jesus was, but he could not because of the crowd, for he was short of stature. We got anybody short of stature here? Any vertically challenged people? How about spiritually speaking? Short in stature.

So he ran ahead. I like this about Zacchaeus. He's needy.

He has to see Jesus. And so he runs. He runs.

So he ran ahead, climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him. Zacchaeus didn't do this to get attention. Some people climb on top of stuff so everybody will see Him.

That's not Zacchaeus' motivation. He climbs up into this tree so he can see the King. So he ran ahead and climbed up into the sycamore tree to see Him, Jesus, for He was going to pass that way.

And when Jesus came to that place, He looked up and He saw and He said to him, Can you see the Lord with the twinkle in His eyes? I like that guy right there. He's after me. He's hungry for me.

Zacchaeus, make haste. Come on down. For today, I must stay at your house.

Oh, it doesn't get any better than that. It doesn't get any better than that. This man saw Jesus.

He recognized that He was King. That He was holy. Are you running after Him? Are you trying to make the terms of the agreement? Write a contract with God? Or do you say, God, I will run after You.

I'll be Your fool. I'll be Your little child. I'll do whatever You want.

So he made haste and came down and received Him joyfully. You guys, there is no greater joy. There is no greater joy.

You will know the embrace of God. The embrace of God like no place else. When you say, God, my hands are empty.

And I just will allow You to do whatever You want in my life. I receive You joyfully. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.

You know why some of you guys cannot get your arms around the Lamb of God? Because they're too full of other stuff. Your stuff. That you will not let go of.

Because you still want to be king in some places. And so he received Him joyfully. Verse 7 But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, He had gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.

Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, Look, Lord. He didn't have to even be asked about this. He says, Look, Lord.

I give half of my goods to the poor. And if I have taken anything from anyone... You guys, this is bearing fruit to meet with repentance. If I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore it fourfold.

And Jesus said to him, Today, today, Zacchaeus, salvation has come to this house because he also is a son of Abraham. He's an heir by faith. Amen? Don't you like that? Don't you like that? You think this is a hard word? It's the only word, you guys.

There is no joy until you do this, until you bow the knee to the King. Come on, serious stuff. Serious stuff.

We need to let God totally revamp our lives, redefine us. Are you willing to be God's fool? Are you guys willing to be God's fool? God, I'll let you make a fool of me. I will do anything you say.

I will say anything, anytime, anywhere. I'll stand and lift my voice. I will not be quiet.

I will not be still. I will obey the King anytime, anywhere, about everything and anything. Have you ever, ever, ever come to that place of absolute brokenness where you pour yourself out like that? Have you? What's God putting His finger on tonight? What's He saying? You never, you never let go of that.

You love that more than me. See, He wants to be our bridegroom. Amen? Our husband.

He wants to marry us. He's inviting us. Drawing us.

Why? He says, why? Why do you flirt with those things? Why are you unfaithful to Me? Why do you love them more than you love Me? We want the love. We want the mercy. We want the intimacy.

But no one can serve two masters. No one can serve two kings. For either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other.

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