

## Are You Like Zacchaeus

“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”, Matthew 6:19-2.

Who was Zacchaeus? Actually he was like many Christians to day.

Zacchaeus was a Jew by birth, but by nature he was a traitor working for a foreign power.

Many Christians, by uttering - or muttering - a few words believe they will be going to Heaven for eternity, but by nature they are still empowered by a foreign power, Satan.

For both Zacchaeus and the ‘Christians’ mentioned above, it is a case of self-promotion. The following, in to days language, sums it up.

‘A man, wanting to invest in some life assurance, was required to obtain a medical assessment.

At the doctors surgery, the nurse asked a few preliminary questions.

“How much do you weigh?” she asked. “95 kilos”, he replied.

“That’s strange” she said, “the scales are registering 105 kilos!”

“How tall are you?” she asked. “180cm”, he replied. “That’s strange” she said, “the measure says you are only 170cm”.

The nurse then asked “Do you know your normal blood pressure?” to which he replied, “It won’t be normal now. I came into this surgery tall and slim, and in only a few minutes you have made me short and fat”.

Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was about to enter the town, and wanting to see

who this Jesus was, he ran to tree and climbed to one of the lower branches, that he might see who Jesus was, and not be seen by Jesus.

In the second dialogue of the narrative above, the nurse asks “How tall are you?” “180cm”, he replied. “That’s strange” she said, “the measure says you are only 170cm”.

It is the final dialogue “The nurse then asked “Do you know your normal blood pressure?” to which he replied, “It won’t be normal now. I came into this surgery tall and slim, and in only a few minutes you have made me short and fat”.

Jesus arrived at that tree, AND STOPPED. At this point, two spiritual growths take place in Zacchaeus’ life,

1. Zacchaeus’ heart would be thumping, and his mind would be calling out that he would now have to listen to a sermon.
2. Jesus knew which branch to look at. Zacchaeus’ thoughts were probably, “Why didn’t he go to the next tree?”

Jesus knew which two leaves to look between. It materialised into an eye to eye meeting, with the ‘great tax collector’ having to descend from that branch in front of those following Jesus.

Our Lord’s first words to Zacchaeus would open the door of Zacchaeus’ heart, allowing the works of self-esteem to escape, and humbleness to enter, “And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house. And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully”, Luke 19:5-6.

Just an eyeball to eyeball meeting between a sinner and the Lord was sufficient for the sinner to totally accept the statement by Jesus, “...I am the way, the

truth, and the life...”, John 14:6.

It was not the lack of physical height that brought Zacchaeus and many Christians’ problems, but a lack of Spiritual height, for the Lord wants each of us to stand tall on this earth as pillars of faith.

There are many ‘hated’ people on this earth, and Jesus stretched forth His Hands to take theirs.

How many unwelcome people in your life have you stretched your hands to, that you might lead them to Jesus?