



Sunday, March 22, 2015

A Sinner's Gospel

Elder Angelo Demma

Luke 19:1-10

- 1. Chief among the publicans/No ordinary publican:**
 - a. A call for us to behold: 2 Tim 3:16-17/Rom 15:4
 - b. He was chief among publicans, yet not in himself: 1 Tim 1:15 (contrast)
 - c. He was rich with the world's goods, yet poor without Christ. Mk 8:36/Jn 12:25

- 2. Seeking, yet all along being sought:**
 - a. To see Jesus—"who he was"—not just to see: Heb 11:6/Jn 1:14/2 Pt 1:16-17
 - b. Me and Christ/everyone is in the way/I must see Him myself: Jn 6:44/Songs 1:4/1 Jn 4:19/Hos 11:4
 - c. The eccentric nature of God's elect (he climbed a tree): 1 Cor 1:27
 - d. Little in stature—we are all too little in stature (Little vs. Short): Rom 3:23

- 3. The Sycamore Tree connection:**
 - a. Greek wordplay: Suko~moraia (soo-kom-o-rah-yah) Tree and the Suko~phanteo (soo-kof-an-teh-o) Defrauder (A Lexical Root!)
 - b. No coincidence in creation—providence and God's will: Col 1:16-17/Jn 1:3
 - c. This really is a Fig Tree—The Garden: Gen 3:7
The Nation of Israel: Hos 9:10/Jer 24:5

- 4. Repentance | Confession | Restoration**
 - a. Repenting—a complete turnaround. You once had your fist in God's face; now you agree with God.
 - b. We tell all we are, all we have done, and do continually confess: 1 Jn 1:9
 - c. The Law requires a fifth of what has been wrongfully taken: Lev 6:5/Num 5:7
 - d. He gives half to the poor and 4-fold to those he ripped off. Why?

- 5. Is salvation a what or a Who?**
 - a. Christ is All: Col 3:11
 - b. Remember Simeon? Lk 2:30—Christ is Salvation.
 - c. In the beginning of Our Lord's Ministry, He stated that He must fulfill all righteousness: Mt 3:15
 - d. Sons of Abraham believe. Christ is now going into Jerusalem: Lk 18:31-34/our Lord said it.
 - e. The Just for the un-just: 1 Pt 3:18/so that we can be "Zacchaeus"—sought, saved, and presented pure and innocent. Jude 24-25