

I. Intro

- A. In Luke 9:51, Jesus “set His face to go to Jerusalem”
 - 1. Final journey to Jerusalem covered 10 chapters
 - 2. Rough MAP of the ground He covered
- B. Journey included – miracles, parables, rebukes, rocks, dust, and emotion
 - 1. Today, the long journey comes to an end
 - 2. Count down to crucifixion begins...final week of Jesus’ ministry
 - 3. The question of Luke 19 – what does Jesus find when he arrives?

II. Text

A. Luke 19:1-10

- 1. Passing through Jericho to Jerusalem
 - a) About 1 mile south of OT Jericho
 - b) Zacchaeus is short (difficult to see) and very wealthy
- 2. Remember Luke’s narrative structure
 - a) Luke 18 – difficult for rich people to enter the kingdom
 - b) Luke 18 – difficult to truly see Jesus, blindness
 - c) Luke 19 – a rich man who is climbing trees to see Jesus!
- 3. *What happens when rich men, who can’t see well, seek the Lord?*
 - a) *Receive an invitation – “come down, let me stay at your house” – salvation!*
 - b) *Those who seek the Lord find – He has been seeking them!*
 - c) *Rich man surrenders and walks out repentance – payback fraud*
- 4. *Luke shows us two responses to Jesus*
 - a) *Embracing His mission – seek/save the lost (Luke 15, Ezekiel 34)*
 - b) *Rejecting His mission – grumble and complain*
- 5. *Same 2 responses today*
 - a) *Jesus arrived in Jerusalem – to inspect*
 - b) *Jesus will arrive again – to inspect*
 - c) *What will He find on the earth? In your home? In your heart?*
- 6. Theme spills over to the next parable

B. Luke 19:11-27

1. Headed to Jerusalem and inspecting His people
 - a) Embracing or rejecting? If embracing, embracing what?
 - b) Embracing the kingdom in their midst or embracing another kingdom?
 - c) Shares a parable to reveal their hearts
2. Nobleman goes away to receive a kingdom
 - a) While gone, puts servants in charge and gives resources to manage
 - b) Upon return, gathers servants to inspect their stewardship
 - c) Some are good managers, some terrible, and some completely reject
 - d) Faithful are rewarded – Unfaithful are punished
3. *This parable does two things...*
 - a) *Illuminates the contrast in the Zacchaeus story*
 - (1) *Jesus has come to inspect Israel*
 - (a) *Embracing with good stewardship? – like Zacchaeus*
 - (b) *Rejecting with complaints and poor stewardship? – like Pharisees*
 - (2) *Some are embracing Jesus, but most are rejecting*
 - b) *Moves the story forward into our lives*
 - (1) *Jesus is the nobleman who ascended to receive the Kingdom*
 - (2) *He will return and judge all stewardship*
 - (a) *How will He find us? Embracing or rejecting?*
 - (b) *Stewardship proves if you embrace or reject*
 - (c) *You can fool many people, but stewardship exposes you*
4. *This is the reality before us...*
 - a) *Jesus is coming soon, what will He find?*
 - b) *Take this seriously – reward and punishment are connected to it*
 - c) *Eternal blessing or eternal repercussions are on the line!*

C. Luke 19:28-44

1. Jesus finally arrives in Jerusalem, the week of Passover
 - a) Prophetic symbolism of Passover [Ex 12]

- b) Prophetic symbolism of the king arriving [Zech 9.9]
- c) Prophetic symbolism of embracing and rejecting [Ps 118.26; Hab 2.11]
- 2. The king arrives – what does He find?
 - a) A people and a city that reject Him
 - b) Jesus weeps and speaks judgment over the city – fulfilled in AD 70
- 3. Inspection doesn't stop at the gates – He enters the Temple too

D. Luke 19:45-48

- 1. Jesus inspects the most sacred and holy place – the Temple
 - a) What does He find? A marketplace
 - (1) Buying, selling, changing money, and making a profit
 - (2) Temple is defiled with robbers
 - b) What did Jesus do?
 - (1) Kicked them out! – replaced business with teaching and prayer
- 2. *A wake-up call for the local church*
 - a) *It serves as guard rails or crime scene tape – Don't go that way again!*
 - b) *Teaching, prayer, and worship are pillars – not business!*

III. Conclusion

- A. *Step back and breathe in Luke 19 – what is this chapter revealing?*
 - 1. *Reveals a king who approaches His people in humility*
 - 2. *Reveals a king who, on approach, inspects His people*
 - 3. *Reveals a king who rewards or disciplines based on what He finds*
- B. *Took place in the 1st century – when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey*
- C. *Will take place in the future – when Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a cloud*
- D. *Taking place every day – when the Word of God rides into your heart while reading*
 - 1. *Luke 19 asks, "What will He find?" – embracing or rejecting*
 - 2. *Will he find you at the top of a tree pleading for a closer look at Him?*
 - 3. *Or, will he find you on the ground watching the show and complaining?*
 - 4. *Rewards and punishments are tied to what He finds – it's time to get serious!*
 - 5. *It is time to make your heart a place of prayer. Not a home for sin.*