



Zacchaeus \zak-EE-uhs\

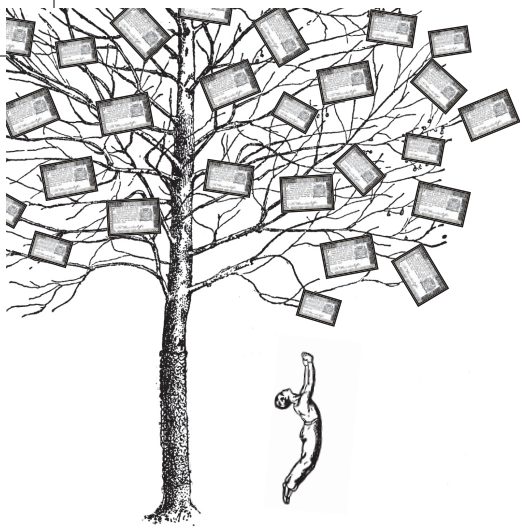
Status:

Zacchaeus is out on a limb.

Profile

Vocation:	President of the JTCO—Jericho Tax Collectors Association
Interests:	Money
Turn-offs:	Not having any money; short jokes; jokes about money that end with “and you can’t be any shorter than that”
Favorite Song:	Toss-up between “Money” by Pink Floyd, “Money for Nothing” by Dire Straits, and “Money (That’s What I Want)” by The Flying Lizards; on the other hand, “Money, Money, Money” by Abba just does not rock.
Favorite Quotation:	“Money is better than poverty, if only for financial reasons”—Woody Allen in <i>Without Feathers</i>

All together now: “Zacchaeus was a wee little man, a wee little man was he. . . .” How would you like to be immortalized in a Sunday school lyric like that? Zacchaeus is the height-challenged, tree-climbing tax-collector introduced in Luke 19. Because Zacchaeus was (a) short, (b) not able to see Jesus for the crowd, and (c) able to get a leg up into a Sycamore, Jesus thought to himself: “Hmmm, maybe



I should invite myself over to this guy's house for dinner." Now why would Jesus think something like that? Why go dine with a tax collector, a guy who is selling out his own people to the Romans? Why? Because Jesus came for exactly this kind of person—a sinner. To paraphrase another, similar story, Jesus came not to heal those who are well, but those who are ~~short~~ . . . sorry, sick.

Key Verse: Jesus said to Zacchaeus, "Today salvation has come to this house . . . For the son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost" (Luke 19:9-10).

See also: Jesus, Luke (The Gospel according to)

Zealots \ZEHL-uhts\

Persons opposed to the idea of rendering unto both God and Caesar. As vegans are to vegetarians, zealots were to Jews.

At first, to be called a "zealot" just meant that a person was intensely devoted to God and to keeping God's law. Later, a group of Jews who lived about the same time as Jesus said, "Hey, since Caesar considers himself a god, and since the Roman empire controls the promised land, if we are truly devoted to the True God, we have to be opposed to Caesar's occupation."

For the record: this policy didn't work out so well.

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See also: Caesar, Rome.