

INTRODUCTION

- * Jesus is on His final trip from Galilee to Jerusalem. He has been ministering to, and teaching, the multitudes as He traveled. He took a side trip through Samaria and then is making His way back down toward the Jordan River in order to pass through Jericho.
- * Over the past two weeks, we have seen Jesus begin to address the question of the Pharisees regarding when the Kingdom of God would come. Jesus told them that the Kingdom of God ultimately does not come with observation but rather God reigns in the hearts of individuals. He then to present instruction to His disciples regarding some of the details of His return.
- * Last week, we saw Jesus begin to address how the spiritual Kingdom would be apparent in those in which He reigned. He encouraged His disciples to not lose heart in presenting their petitions to God but to always remember that He would judge justly.
- * In today's passage, we see Jesus teach further into this Kingdom mindset. "What does it look like to have Christ reigning in your heart?" How will that affect your life and your motivations?

INSTRUCTION**I. THE NEED FOR C_____ (v. 9-14)****A. The Prayers of the Men**

1. THE A_____ OF THE PHARISEE
2. THE C_____ OF THE TAX COLLECTOR (v. 13; cf. Psalms 34:18; Psalms 51:10-17; Isaiah 66:1-4)
 - a. Witnessed in His A_____
 - b. Witnessed in His W_____

B. The Proclamations of the Messiah

1. THE J_____ (v. 14a; Romans 3:19-28; Romans 4:1-8; Ephesians 2:8-10; 1 John 1:8-10)
2. THE P_____ (v. 14b; cf. Habakkuk 2:4; James 4:6,10; 1 Peter 5:5-6)

II. THE NEED FOR T_____ (v. 15-17)**A. The Actions of the Disciples (v. 15)****B. The Proclamations of the Messiah**

- 1.
- 2.

III. THE NEED FOR C_____ (v. 18-30)**A. The Interaction with the Ruler**

1. HIS I_____ (v. 18; cf. Matt 19:16-30)
2. HIS I_____ (v. 18-20)
3. HIS I_____ (v. 21-22)
4. HIS I_____ (v. 23; cf. Mark 6:26; Matt 26:38; Mark 14:34; 2 Corinthians 7:9-10; Hebrews 12:17)

B. The Proclamations of the Messiah

- 1.
- 2.

INTROSPECTION

- * How is your "heart" before God? Are you contrite, trusting and committed?
- * Is it your passion to love Him with all of your heart, soul, mind and strength?
- * Do you have any "idols" which are hindering your allegiance and service to the King?
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * Religion and riches are common "stumbling-block" mentioned in the Bible. How can we best encourage one another as we battle their influence in our lives individually and in the church collectively?