

## THE PUBLICAN FACTOR

Publicans were Jewish “tax farmers” who garnered revenue on behalf of Roman government. Having considerable latitude in what they collected, it lent itself to corruption and consequently resentment by the Jews.

CATAGORIZED with: **Sinners, Harlots and Gentiles.**

### The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

**Luk 18:9-14** And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: ...**Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.** ....And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner....I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

### Jesus, Friend Of Publicans And Sinners

**Luk 7:28-34** For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he. And all the people that heard *him*, and the publicans, justified God, being baptized with the baptism of John. But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him....**For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil. The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners!** But wisdom is justified of all her children.

*Those who follow the dictates of true wisdom ever justify, point out as excellent, the holy maxims by which they are guided, for they find the way pleasantness, and the path, peace.*

### Publicans And Sinners/Jewish Leaders: Parable Of The Lost Sheep

**Luk 15:1-4** Then drew near unto him all the **publicans and sinners** for to hear him. And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them. And he spake this parable unto them, saying, **What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?....**

### Publicans and Harlots: Parable of the Two Sons

*The authority of Jesus was Challenged, then he related this parable:*

**Mat 21:31** Whether of them twain did the will of *his* father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, **Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.**

**Mat 21:32** For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the **publicans and the harlots** believed him: and ye, when ye had seen *it*, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.

**Rom 5:6** For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

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### Jesus Calls Matthew

Mat 9:9 And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named **Matthew**, [*Levi the son of Alphaeus Mk2:14*] sitting at the **receipt of**



**custom**: and he saith unto him, **Follow me**. And he arose, and [*he left all Lk5:28*] followed him.

Luk 5:29 And Levi made him a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them.

Mat 9:10 And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many **publicans and sinners** came and sat down with him and his

disciples.

Mat 9:11 And when the Pharisees saw *it*, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?

Mat 9:12 But when Jesus heard *that*, he said unto them, **They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.**

Mat 9:13 But **go ye and learn what *that* meaneth, I will have mercy,** and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

### Jesus and Zacchaeus

Luk 19:1 And *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho.

Luk 19:2 And, behold, *there was* a man named Zacchaeus, which was the **chief among the publicans**, and he was rich.

Luk 19:3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.

Luk 19:4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see him: for he was to pass that *way*.

Luk 19:5 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.**

Luk 19:6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.

Luk 19:7 And when they saw *it*, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.

Luk 19:8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore *him* fourfold.

**Luk 19:9** And Jesus said unto him, **This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.**

Luk 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.