

**RUINED SINNERS TO RECLAIM**  
Luke 5:27–32

<sup>27</sup> After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, “Follow Me.” <sup>28</sup> So he left all, rose up, and followed Him. <sup>29</sup> Then Levi gave Him a great feast in his own house. And there were a great number of tax collectors and others who sat down with them. <sup>30</sup> And their scribes and the Pharisees complained against His disciples, saying, “Why do You eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>31</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup> I have not come to call *the* righteous, but sinners, to repentance.”

**MAIN POINT:** Jesus calls, rescues, and welcomes repentant outcasts. His bride must go and do the same.

**I. An Outcast Invited (v. 27)**

- A. Tax collectors were the social outcasts.
  - 1. Jewish tax collectors worked for the Roman government and were therefore considered traitors to their own people.
  - 2. There were two main types of Tax Collectors:
    - a) Chief Tax Collector (Latin *publicanus* from which the KJV gets “Publican;” e.g., Zacchaeus)
    - b) Tax Collector (e.g., Levi)
- B. Levi is also known as Matthew (the author of the Gospel of Matthew).
- C. Jesus speaks to and invites a social pariah to follow him.

**II. An Outcast Accepted (v. 28)**

- A. The tax collector left everything.
  - 1. He left his job and old way of life.
  - 2. He chose to be a following disciple of the traveling rabbi.
- B. The tax collector followed Jesus (i.e., became an identifiable disciple).