

Jesus Is the Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37

Many know the Good Samaritan as *a parable with a good moral*, but few people grasp it for what it is – **a presentation of the gospel message**. In this parable we will see how Jesus is our Good Samaritan.

By way of introduction, you need to understand a couple of things:

1. This man who is a "Lawyer" is an expert in the Law of Moses.

He is wanting to "trap" Jesus and give the Pharisees a reason to put Jesus to death. So he asks the question, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" How would Jesus respond to this question?

2. Jesus gives us the road map for receiving eternal life (v. 28).

In response to "what shall I do to inherit life eternal" – Jesus asks the lawyer how he read the Law. You must love God perfectly, and you must love people perfectly. Of course, we all fall short.

3. Those who wish to self-justify will change the Law (v. 29).

"Who is my neighbor?" In other words, let's bring it down to the level that I can do something.

I can love my family or my relatives or my kinsmen, or the citizens of my nation – but

But our neighbor, those God requires us to love, and love as ourselves, are not our family and

friends, but our worst enemies! God is love, and the love of God reaches to the world of mankind.

I. The "certain man" beaten, robbed and left for dead is a picture of all of us in Adam

As this man went down from Jerusalem, which stood on high ground, to Jericho, which was in a low place, so our father Adam and all the human race in him went down. How far down we went when Adam sinned in the Garden, when we sinned against God in him! We are "all fallen short" of God. Adam fell from a state of happiness into misery; from a state of uprightness into a state of depravity; from a state of righteousness into a state of sin; from a state of acceptance with God into one of woe; from a state of blessedness into a state of cursedness; from a state of peace (Jerusalem) into a state of condemnation (Jericho); from a state of unity into a state of enmity. We all are seen in this man.

A. Like this man, we are attacked by our enemy who "steals, kills, and destroys (John 10:10).

B. Like this man, we may be alive physically, but we are dead spiritually and dying physically.

We are in the land of the dying and going to the land of the living, rather than the opposite.

II. The "priest and the Levite" represent religion's attempt to help man in need.

Be sure you hear and understand what Jesus is saying. There is no real mercy in institutional religion.

Religion leaves us where it finds us. Religious leaders are more focused on themselves than the lost.

III. Jesus is "the Good Samaritan" and what He does for us is unprecedented.

This Good Samaritan is the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ. No, our Savior was not a Samaritan, but a Jew, a son of Abraham. But the Jews called him a Samaritan (**John 8:48**) and treated him as such, as one who was utterly hated and despised by them. Our Lord takes the title. He came here to love his neighbor, to do good to his neighbor, to help his fallen neighbor, to save those who are his sworn "For while we were helpless, at just the right time, Christ died for us (Romans 5:6). That's Jesus.

Jesus took a journey. – His Incarnation and Sojourn in this World.

Jesus came to where we were. – In Substitution.

When Jesus saw us, he had compassion on us – We love Him because He first loved us.

Jesus binds up all our wounds – Pouring in the Oil of His Spirit (Grace) and the Wine of His Blood!

Jesus set us on his own beast. – The white horse of triumph and victory over all things.

Jesus brought us into his Inn, the Church of God, where He sees to our constant care -

"Go and do the same" (v 37). The evidence of knowing the Good Samaritan is becoming like Him.