

## “Good Samaritan Revisited”

*“The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”” (Luke 10:37)*

### I. The Question Behind the Parable

#### A. The Big and Important Question of Life

*“On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”” (Luke 10:25)*

#### B. The Answer: Perfect Love

*““What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”” (Luke 10:26)*

*“He answered: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”” (Luke 10:27)*

#### C. The Problem To The Answer

*“You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”” (Luke 10:28)*

“It seems like a very simple question and answer session, doesn’t it? All that is required of you to live eternally is to love the Lord your God with all of your heart, and so on. What could be more simple? But think about it, for a moment. There is no-one, not one person, who has kept the force of this commandment for the last five minutes, let alone for their entire lives. For to say that you love God with all of your mind, and all of your soul, and all of your strength, and all of your heart, really is to say that you never sin, because it would be impossible to sin if you loved God in this way.” (R.C. Sproul)

“Your religion is what you do with your solitude.” (William Temple)

#### D. Jesus Is The Answer To The Question

*“For God took the sinless Christ and poured into Him our sins. Then, in exchange, He poured God's goodness into us.” (2 Corinthians 5:21 Living Bible)*

#### E. Trying To Stay In the ‘What Must I Do’ Game

*“But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”” (Luke 10:29)*

### II. A Parable To Annihilate Self-Salvation

#### A. A Neighbor Too Good To Be True

*“In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’” (Luke 10:30–35)*

[ picture: “Jericho” ]

“Along comes the Samaritan. It's hard to think of a similar pairing today. But for shock value, let's put it this way. The Lutheran minister passes by. Then a local Catholic priest sees the injured man and he goes by. And then along comes a Muslim imam, and he stops. You're not supposed to tell stories like that. The

wrong guy wins. But it's that kind of shock value that is going on in the story because Samaritans in Jesus' day were despised." (D.A. Carson)

*"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"*  
(Luke 10:36)

#### B. "Go and Do Likewise" – I Can't

*"The expert in the law replied, 'The one who had mercy on him.' Jesus told him, 'Go and do likewise.'"*  
(Luke 10:37)

### III. Jesus, the Real and Only Good Samaritan

#### A. Jesus, our Answer To The Question

*"On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. 'Teacher,' he asked, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?'"* (Luke 10:25)

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."* (John 3:16)

#### B. Jesus Came To Heal the Broken and Pay the Cost To Make Us Whole

*"He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him."* (Luke 10:34)

*"He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not."* (Isaiah 53:3)

*"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds."* (Psalm 147:3)

*"you were bought at a price."* (1 Corinthians 6:20)