

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

TEXT: *Luke 10:30: And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.*

Question: What led up to the Lord Jesus telling this earthly story with a heavenly meaning?

Answer: The answer is found in the historical background to this illustration. Jesus just called and appointed 70 additional witnesses and messengers to His twelve apostles. He now commissions them to become His heralds, announcing His coming into the many cities and towns where He will be preaching, healing, and teaching the Word of God. He tells them to travel light, not to be burdened down with a lot of provisions.

When they enter a city or village and desire lodging, they are to go to a home and proclaim peace to that home. If the Son of Peace (Jesus' saving Presence) is there, then their proclaimed peace shall remain and rest on that home. If they are not welcomed, then they are to recall their peace, and it will leave that home. They are not to go from house to house, but remain there and enjoy the hospitality of that family. They are to heal the sick and proclaim: "The Kingdom of God is come close to you". If not welcomed, then they are to bid their peace to return to them, and go into the streets and say: "The very dust of your city, which clings to our shoes we do wipe off against you and say: 'It shall be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city.'"

When the seventy returned to Jesus telling of the success of their ministries, they rejoiced most because demons were subject unto them in JESUS' NAME. Then Jesus surprised and shocked them by this response:

Luke 10:18-20:

¹⁸ And He said unto them, I beheld satan as lightning fall from Heaven.

¹⁹ Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy (satan): and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

²⁰ Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in Heaven.

There was a lawyer (literally a Theologian), a Doctor of the Law, who stood up and asked the Lord Jesus this question:

Luke 10:25: Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

This question was influenced by what Jesus had just said; and to discredit the Lord Jesus, these religious officials were determined to get rid of the Lord Jesus because they had lost so many church members and were envious of the Lord. They were afraid to put Him to death because they feared the people. So their only recourse was to seek to discredit Jesus. They thought that if they could destroy His popularity, they could overthrow His powerful hold on the people. The lawyer hoped that Jesus would be stumped by this question, give a sorry answer, and so look ridiculous.



Though they had often tried this device, it had failed outright.

This is the second lawyer to ask a similar question with the same motive. The other asked Jesus:

Matthew 22:36-40:

³⁶ Master, which is the great Commandment in the law?

³⁷ Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

³⁸ This is the first and great Commandment.

³⁹ And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

⁴⁰ On these two Commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The answer stopped him cold and he faded away into the crowd.

This lawyer gave the same answer as Jesus had previously given. Then Jesus commended him for answering frankly and forthrightly and correctly. Then Jesus added:

Luke 10:28: Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.

QUESTION: Why did the Lord Jesus take this lawyer back to the law? Because the law can't give anyone eternal life. What was His purpose or motive in asking this question?

ANSWER: *Colossians 2:2-3:*

² That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

³ In Whom are hid all the treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge.

Jesus, *in Whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge*, had a very special reason for doing so. The legalists have taken this scripture out of context and used it in their attempt to bring us back under the law. Before Jesus can preach grace and salvation only through His shed Blood on the Cross of Calvary, the law must be first preached!!! Why? The Bible says in:

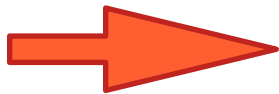
Galatians 3:22: But the Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the Promise by Faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.

Galatians 3:24: Wherefore the Law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by Faith.

The LAW is the KNOWLEDGE OF SIN. SIN is a TRANSGRESSION of THE LAW.

Romans 3:20: Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the Law is the knowledge of sin.

1 John 3:4: Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the Law: for sin is the transgression of the Law.



Before sinners can see their need of salvation, they must see that they are transgressors, ungodly, having broken God's law, and must be punished for their sins unless a remedy or means of pardon can be found.

The Scriptures declare:

(a) *Isaiah 64:6: But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness is as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.*

- (b) ***Ecclesiastes 7:20: For there is not a just man upon earth, that doth good and sinneth not.***
- (c) ***Romans 3:23: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;***
- (d) ***Romans 3:10: As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:***
- (e) ***Proverbs 20:9: Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?***
- (f) ***1 Kings 8:46: If they sin against thee, (for there is no man that sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them to the enemy, so that they carry them away captives unto the land of the enemy, far or near.***
- (g) ***Micah 7:2: The good man is perished out of the earth: and there is none upright among men: they all lie in wait for blood; they hunt every man his brother with a net.***

Therefore, when the Lord Jesus turned the lawyer's question right back on him, He did so because Jesus knew that he was an expert in the Jewish law. This is not our Lord's normal way of dealing with everyone. Some of the common people would not be familiar enough with the Scriptures to quote them like this lawyer did, and with such accuracy. Jesus would not ever try to embarrass them for not knowing the exact answer. Jesus knew that this lawyer knew the law and that he would not pretend to be ignorant of it, lest his effectiveness as a lawyer would be called into question by the listening congregation. The lawyer quoted the Shema and also the Royal Law found in:

Deuteronomy 6:5: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

and in:

Leviticus 19:18: Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

The Lord Jesus complimented the Lawyer for answering correctly. Then Jesus said:

Luke 10:28: Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live.

TAKE NOTICE: The Lord Jesus did not say: 'This do and thou shalt have eternal life', but "***THIS DO and THOU SHALT LIVE.***" The Lord Jesus is actually quoting from the Law of Moses. Throughout the Old Testament Scriptures, obeying or doing the commandments, statutes, ordinances, and precepts of the Lord is rewarded with a promise of our physical life being extended. Plus, we will preserve our spiritual life from dying spiritually. This is clearly set forth in the Prodigal Son.

Luke 15:24: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

Luke 15:32: It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

James 5:19: Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;

James 5:20: Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

1 Timothy 5:7: And these things give in charge, that they may be blameless.

1 John 5:16-17:

¹⁶ If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it.

¹⁷ All unrighteousness is sin: and there is a sin not unto death.

(a) *Deuteronomy 4:1: Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you.*

(b) **Deuteronomy 5:33** : *Ye shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and that it may be well with you, and that ye may prolong your days in the land which ye shall possess.*

Deuteronomy 8:1: *All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers.*

Deuteronomy 8:3: *And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.*

Deuteronomy 16:20: *That which is altogether just shalt thou follow, that thou mayest live, and inherit the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.*

When the lawyer heard these commandments which he was very familiar with, he tried to justify himself by asking. “*And who is my neighbor?*” He well knew what the Rabbi Maimonides said:

- (a) The gentiles who are keepers of sheep amongst us Israelites we are not to contrive their death; but, if they be in danger of death, we are not bound to deliver them.
- (b) If any of them fall into the sea, you shall not need to take them out, for such a one is not thy neighbor.

The Rabbi used **Leviticus 19:18**:

Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

The Lord Jesus knew of this *bypassing of the law and skirting around the commandments of the Lord*, so He gives this remarkable parable of the Good Samaritan.

Luke 10:30-37:

³⁰ And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell



among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

³¹ And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

³² And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

³⁴ And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

³⁵ And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

³⁶ Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

³⁷ And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

INTRODUCTION: The Lord Jesus well knew the geography and topography of the Holy Land. After all, He is the Creator of that land, and all the world for that matter.

John 1:3: All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.

The Holy City Jerusalem is about 2300 - 3500 feet above sea level, while Jericho is 1300 feet below sea level. It is the lowest place on earth — a type of Hell. This traveler went down from Jerusalem or going away from God's House and God's people. He is taking the easy road downward before being attached by thieves. The distance from Jerusalem is about 30 miles to Jericho. We are not told by our Lord how far he had gone before the attack. It will vary from one backslider to another as to when the devil will attack the backslider.

1. They stripped him of his raiment leaving him naked.

(a) When Adam and Eve backslide, they lost their glory clothes.

Genesis 3:7: And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

When they heard the Lord calling to them, they ran and hid.

Genesis 3:9: And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

He already knew, but wanted Adam's confession. It soon came:

Genesis 3:10: I heard Thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.



- (b) Because thou (Laodicean church) sayest:

Revelation 3:17-18:

¹⁷ Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

¹⁸ I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

- (c) Behold I come as a thief

Revelation 16:15: Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

2. They wounded Him — left him badly battered bruised, and beaten. *Isaiah 1:4-6:*

⁴ Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have

provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

⁵ Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

⁶ From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.

3. They left him half dead.

When did all this misfortune come upon the traveler? It was when he went away from God. Then Jesus said “HE FELL among thieves.” Pay close attention to these two words: HE FELL, please!!!

- (a) ***Acts 1:25: That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.***
- (b) ***Luke 8:13: They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the Word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away.***
- (c) ***2 Peter 3:16-17:***
 - ¹⁶ As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.*
 - ¹⁷ Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stedfastness.*
- (d) ***Romans 11:22: Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in His goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.***
- (e) ***Hosea 14:1: O Israel return unto The LORD THY God; for thou hast FALLEN by thine iniquity.***

(f) **Matthew 7:26-27:**

26 And every one that heareth these sayings of Mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

When people turn away from God, they fall into sin, fulfilling body passions and lusts, become spoiled, and lose self-respect. A good conscience now turns to condemn us, then becomes seared as with a hot iron when a person goes on in their sins. Then evil habits are formed and lead to loathsome diseases, and unless that person repents and turns to the Lord for cleansing, forgiveness, and restoration, the Spirit can be grieved away and will no longer strive with that person to turn them back to God.

THE PRIEST PASSED HIM UP

Luke 10:31: And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him [the injured man], he passed by on the other side.



The thieves beat him up, and the priest passed him up. Why? Quite a number of reasons could have flashed through his mind.

1. This priest could be somewhat like some preachers today who perform their duties on Sunday, and then put off their priestly robes till the following Sunday or weekend. It's only a job to them.
2. He could have feared the same thing happening to him as befell this man, and wanted to hurry away from that danger zone for self-preservation — looking out for *number one*, not realizing that *one* is next to nothing.
3. This priest could have been on his way to the temple to perform his duties there and did not want to be late. He believed in being punctual and did not want to get all messed up from this bloody man's body.
4. He could have reasoned; *There are police and paramedics who are more skilled in treating people who are as bad off as this man* — that he lacked the experience in caring for such physical needs as this man had.

5. This Priest could have reasoned: *He looks already dead to me, and it is now too late to do him any good. Besides, it is against the Law of God for a Priest or minister to touch a dead body, lest he be defiled.*
6. Then again, this priest could have imagined that this stripped man, badly beaten, could have some infectious disease, and he did not want to expose himself to it. So he passed by on the other side.

NOTE: Jesus had much to say in preaching on the *sins of omission*, even more than the *sins of commission*, because the first are more common.

(a) Parable of the Sheep and the Goats:

Matthew 25:31-46:

31 When the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the Holy Angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the Throne of His glory:

32 And before Him shall be gathered all nations: and He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

33 And He shall set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.

34 Then shall the King say unto them on His right hand, Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave Me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took Me in:

36 Naked, and ye clothed Me: I was sick, and ye visited Me: I was in prison, and ye came unto Me.

37 Then shall the righteous answer Him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.

41 Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave Me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me no drink:

43 I was a stranger, and ye took Me not in: naked, and ye clothed Me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited Me not.

44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto Thee?

45 Then shall He answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to Me.

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

(b) Rich man neglecting Lazarus

Luke 16:19: There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

(c) Parable of the unusual Talent

Matthew 25:14-30:

14 For the Kingdom of Heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

ILLUSTRATION OF THE SELFISH FARMER

Harpers Magazine published this story about a farmer who was a very industrious and hard worker. He showed, however, no interest in his neighbor's welfare or affairs. His corn crop was his pride and joy, and he had made careful selections which originated a new variety of corn.

When some of his neighbors heard about it, they came to buy some seed of this new variety. He refused to sell to them. In their poor fields he told himself his superior variety of corn would soon deteriorate or degenerate and become no better

than theirs. What happened was this: the inferior corn pollen was blown by the winds to his fields and cross fertilized his corn and degenerated it. He displayed a selfish centered spirit which in turn backfired on himself. Finally he had to conclude: "I can't have good corn while my neighbor's corn fields are poor."

This same principle holds true in the spiritual realm. When we ignore the spiritual welfare of our brothers and sisters in Christ, we are hurting our own lives and hindering our own spiritual progress. We need one another, and also need to help one another.

THE LEVITE ALSO "PASSED THE TRAVELER UP"

When the priest passed the robbery victim up, his poor example influenced the Levite's decision to help, also. The Levite was the assistant to the priest at the Temple. There is one thing we must take notice of in Jesus' Parable, however. He did show a little more concern and sympathy for the misfortunes of the battered and beaten robbery victim. Jesus said: "*He looked on him and then passed by on the other side.*" He was a little more concerned, and yet this question: "Why did he pass him by?" Here are some possible answers.



1. Perhaps the Levite felt: *This is not my spiritual calling.* The Bible does say:

1 Corinthians 7:20: Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called.

1 Corinthians 12:28: And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

I do not want to rob that gifted person of a blessing. So, I'll report this opportunity to the pastor of the church, the Rabbi of the synagogue.

2. He may have thought: *If the priest passed him by, it must be that he thought the man was a hopeless case. He was too far beyond recovery.*

3. He may have thought: *This man may be a bum and not worth saving. Try to bail him out of one mess, and he will get into another even worse.*

4. He may have had a delicate and super-sensitive nature. It made him sick to see the sight of this bloody body and the foul odors coming from him. He may have felt sickly, and thought he might faint if he looked any further on him, so he had better hasten on his way to the synagogue service.
5. Or, did the Levite while looking on the man, say to himself: *He doesn't belong to our church or denomination; therefore, he will have to wait till one of his own congregation comes along to give him the help he needs.*
6. The Levite could have thought as the disciple of Jesus did of the man born blind — that he had sinned, or his parents, or that this was a judgment of God for the man's sins as Job's three friends thought.

John 9:2: And His Disciples asked Him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

Job 15:5-6:

⁵ For thy mouth uttereth thine iniquity, and thou chooseth the tongue of the crafty.

⁶ Thine own mouth condemneth thee, and not I: yea, thine own lips testify against thee.

Job 22:5: Is not thy wickedness great? and thine iniquities infinite?

This Levite, by human reasoning, not only broke the law by failing to love his neighbor as himself, but also needed to take a second look at himself. Would he have used the same arguments if he was the victim of robbery, or condoned them in some others who would have passed him by?

THE HALF DEAD TRAVELER'S THOUGHTS AND IMPRESSIONS:

He sees the priest coming and all of a sudden his hopes are rising that help has finally arrived. He sees those priestly garments and knows it is someone from the House of the Lord. Surely, he will have compassion on me and help me. But he can't believe his eyes as he sees the priest doesn't even look in his direction. His disappointment is made even more painful than his physical wounds. To be passed by someone so high up in the House of God, it just must have broken his heart even more. He never expected that to happen. He thought: Surely God's people ought to act like God's people. Is he merely a professor and not a possessor?

Today, there are still people who are content to say with Cain.

Genesis 4:9: Am I my brother's keeper?

I'm glad that this is not the end of the story. Someone is now coming who does practice the Golden Rule:

Luke 6:31: And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.

THE GOOD SAMARITAN — A TYPE OF JESUS OUR LORD.

TEXT:

Luke 10:33-35:

³³ But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

³⁴ And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

³⁵ And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.



In our Lord's time, the Samaritans were considered as bad as a demon-possessed person (Dr. Ferrar). They were excommunicated and accursed, even denied all share in the resurrection according to the teaching of the Rabbis. No Jew was permitted to eat any of their produce from that forbidden territory. It would be as bad as the eating of swine's flesh. And you know that was a NO, NO!!!

QUESTION: Why were the Samaritans considered as being such rejects?

ANSWER: They were former Jews who had intermarried with the heathen Gentiles who came into the land during the times of Nebuchadnezzar. He took control of the Holy Land, holding the Jews in captivity as slaves. They obviously hated these Gentiles for that. Then when some Jews married these Gentiles, they were blackballed, considered as polluted. Even the Disciples had misgivings about these Samaritans.

Luke 9:51-56:

51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that He should be received up, He stedfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem,

52 And sent messengers before His face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for Him.

53 And they did not receive Him, because His face was as though He would go to Jerusalem.

54 And when His Disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt Thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?

55 But He turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.

56 For the Son of Man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village.

Also, the Jews insultingly said to Jesus:

John 8:48: Then answered the Jews, and said unto Him, Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?

Jesus could have established better public relations with His own, if He had not made a Samaritan as the hero in His parable or illustration, rather than a Jewish person. When our Lord celebrated and honored this despised Samaritan, this curdled their blood.

The Good Samaritan, Jesus said, was willing to help a Jewish man even though there was ethnic prejudice amongst both groups or denominations. This part of our Lord's sermon hit the audience like a wet sock. If the battered, beaten, and bruised up man had been a Samaritan, they would have thought very little of him helping one of his own.

QUESTION:

What must this Jewish robbery victim have thought when he was so compassionately ministered to by this Samaritan? Even to the Good Samaritan lifting him up on his own beast of burden so gently and tenderly and causing him to ride while the Samaritan was willing to walk?



ANSWER:

Love has its own language. That is what real compassion does, for it puts love into action. It is compassion in action. This is much better than merely paying lip service, don't you think so?

APPLICATION:

There is no such thing as helping to save the lost and rescue the perishing at a distance. We must go where they are in order to do them any good. We, as Christians, could pray better if we would serve better, entering into the needs of those outside of Christ and still lost in their sins. The lost need to be brought to Christ's House of the Lord and cared for!!!



QUESTION:

I'm just wondering — what if the Samaritan needed some help in putting this Jewish man on his beast of burden after giving him the first-aid treatment? What would be the response from us if we were the passers-by?

Would you ask: 'What or who are you?'

If I answered, "Oh, I'm a Pentecostal preacher". You know that would curdle the blood of many denominational people. Some others might ask: 'What are you going to do with him?'

ANSWER:

I'm fixing to take him to our church to take further care of him.

QUESTION:

Would you ask: 'What church is that?' If it was not of this denomination some would drop me like a hot potato.

Beloved, we need more than denominational loyalty and sympathy. We need a good dose of the Love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost.

The Scriptures teach that as Christians we are to be:

Romans 12:13: Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality.

Ministers, also, for hospitality is one of the 24 qualifications before entering into the ministry as recorded in:

1 Timothy 3:2: A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

There was a time in our own nation when a birth was about to take place in the neighborhood that the neighbors were on hand to help the expectant mother with her housework, help cook the meals, and do the washing.

In case of a death, the neighbors were notified and they'd fix a meal, dig the grave, weave a wreath, and hang on the front door, sing at the funeral service, and tenderly comfort the bereaved.

In time of sickness, the neighbors would work together at plowing time. They would turn the soil and help the ill farmer to get his crops planted. If at harvest time, they would cut and husk the corn, mow, stack, and thrash the hay. If in winter, they would fell the trees, cut up the firewood, and even haul it to the woodshed for free. If at harvest time, they would help with the butchering, help with cooking, and make apple butter, help prepare the preserves, do the canning of the vegetables, fruit, and even the meats. But those days are well nigh gone.



Neighbors have nothing much to do with one another anymore. There is too much of an "I LOVE ME" spirit as was prophesied by the Holy Ghost in:

2 Timothy 3:1-7:

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, high minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

6 For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts,

7 Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

This Good Samaritan was willing to give:

- (a) his time
- (b) his money
- (c) his strength
- (d) his abilities
- (e) his transportation
- (f) his compassion.

God is very much interested in our showing concern about the welfare of others. We best show our concern or compassion to those in need or trouble by reaching out with a helping hand with a heart of love. This is True Christianity in action. It shows not only to the Lord, but also to the lost, that we are more than professors of Old Time Holy Ghost religion.

The Good Samaritan knew that a little first aid was not enough. Sinners need more than first-aid treatment. Those wrecked by sin, by satan, and by flesh lusts need more than a patch-up work. They need Bible salvation and deliverance from bondage. Then they need to be built up on their most holy faith. Full restoration is necessary. Jesus leaves this task up to the church, and that is what this inn is a type of.

QUESTION:

How many here would keep well out of sight of those who are battered, beaten, bruised, and even stripped down naked and left for half dead?

WHO IS THIS GOOD SAMARITAN, ANYWAY? Look at **Ezekiel**:

Ezekiel 16:6-7:

6 And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live.

7 I have caused thee to multiply as the bud of the field, and thou hast increased and waxen great, and thou art come to excellent ornaments: thy breasts are fashioned, and thine hair is grown, whereas thou wast naked and bare.

Did you know that it is the Lord Who is speaking these words to the children of Israel? He is showing them His big heart of love and compassion. This is what Jesus is now describing in this parable or illustration of the Good Samaritan as to what we should also be doing — that there should be no respect of persons, or racial or denomination prejudice in our ministering to the needs of the people.

NOW, TO THE REST OF THE STORY

Turning to these scriptures from **Ephesians** and **Galatians**, we see that the middle wall of partition between Jews and Gentiles is now broken down by the Gospel of Christ. If we be Christ's, then we are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise. Since we are God's people, now partakers of the divine nature, we should act like the children of God.

Ephesians 2:12-19:

12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the Blood of Christ.

14 For He is our peace, Who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

15 Having abolished in His flesh the enmity, even the Law of Commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in Himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

16 And that He might reconcile both unto God in one body by the Cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

17 And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

18 For through Him we both have access by One Spirit unto the Father.

19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

Galatians 3:28-29:

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the Promise.

CHRISTIANS ARE PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE

This is how Christians are identified.

- 1. 2 Peter 1:4: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the Divine Nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.***
- 2. Ephesians 4:24: And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.***
- 3. Romans 8:29: For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the Image of His Son, that He might be the Firstborn among many brethren.***
- 4. Colossians 3:10: And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the Image of Him Who created Him:***
- 5. Genesis 1:26: And God said, Let us make man in Our Image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.***

This “INN” and “THE INN-KEEPER”

This inn is a beautiful type of the church, first called the Sanctuary by the Lord.

- (a) Exodus 25:8: And let them make Me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.***

- (b) ***Leviticus 19:30: Ye shall keep My Sabbaths, and reverence My Sanctuary: I am the LORD.***
- (c) ***Hebrews 8:1-2: Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an High Priest, Who is set on the Right Hand of the Throne of the Majesty in the Heavens;***
² A Minister of the Sanctuary, and of the True Tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

NOTE: The Good Samaritan would have had some difficulties if there was no inn to which he could take his new convert. The Good Samaritan knew where a caring church or synagogue was located. Jesus wants to direct precious souls to His caring community.

THE INN KEEPER

The Good Samaritan must have been acquainted with this inn keeper, and had confidence in him as to entrust this new convert to his care. Then the inn keeper was assured that the Good Samaritan would do exactly as he promised. ***“When I return I will repay thee.”*** The inn keeper is the pastor of the Church, in type.



- (a) ***Luke 19:26-27:***
²⁶ For I say unto you, That unto every one which hath shall be given; and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him.
²⁷ But those Mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them bring hither, and slay them before Me.
- (b) ***Revelation 22:12: And, behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work shall be.***
- (c) ***1 Peter 5:2, 4:***
² Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight, thereof not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

4 And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

CONCLUSION: JESUS IS COMING SOON!

Are you staying busy for HIM, or are you idle? The rewards will be given only for those who are working for Jesus. No work, no pay. This is made clear by our Lord in His parable.

Matthew 20:1-4:

1 For the Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard.

2 And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.

3 And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace,

4 And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.

Matthew 20:10-16:

10 But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny.

11 And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house,

12 Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.

13 But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?

14 Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee.

15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?



16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

THE LAWYER'S QUESTION: What must I do to inherit eternal life? Is there anything wrong with his question? The answer is: Partly, and this is the reason. Eternal life is a gift as the Bible clearly tells us. One cannot inherit eternal life. That is out of the question. For an inheritance is also a gift freely bestowed out of a heart of love from the Will maker or testator to those whom they love and appreciate. We sinners, children of the devil, must be born again to enter God's Heaven.

(a) *Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

(b) *John 10:26-28:*

26 But ye believe not, because ye are not of My Sheep, as I said unto you.

27 My Sheep hear My Voice, and I know them, and they follow Me:

28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My Hand.

John 17:2: As Thou [God] hast given Him power over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as Thou hast given Him.

John 3:5-7:

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

Akron Shalom Bible Learning Center

www.AkronShalomMinistries.org