

MY GOOD SAMARITAN

Pastor Joseph Hovsepian

Luke 10:25-37

A lawyer came to Jesus and asked Him a question, it was a good question, but he did not ask this question because he wanted to learn, but rather he wanted to test Jesus.

But Jesus knowing this man's heart, challenged him with another question.

The Lawyer's question was: "*What must I do to inherit eternal life?*"

Jesus' answer was: "*What is it written in the Law?*" and "*How do you read it?*" (vs.26)

Now, the lawyer correctly quoted from the Ten Commandments: "*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 neighbour as yourself.*"

Jesus commands him for his knowledge of the scriptures and tells him to go and put it into practice, "*Do this and you will live.*"

The lawyer to justify himself, because it was obvious that he knew the answer to his first question, and to gain credibility he asked the answer to his first question, and to gain credibility he asked "*And who is my neighbour?*"

"*In reply Jesus*" Jesus tells him the parable of the Good Samaritan.

* Now, the usual interpretation of the Parable of the Good Samaritan is that, we must be like the Good Samaritan, and love even our enemies and help them etc.

But, I will give you another **Application** of this familiar Parable.

A) The man who was robbed and left there half dead represents **Me and any sinner.**

This man was going from Jerusalem (the city of peace) to Jericho (The City of Curse).

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho is downward. A distance of 17 miles and a descent from 2500 ft. above sea level to about 800 ft. below sea level. The road ran through rocky, desert country, which was full of robbers who would attack defenceless travelers.

A man "fell into the hands of robbers." Satan is a **thief** (John 10:10): "*The thief (Satan) comes only to steal and kill and destroy.*" Satan was the thief in Eden and still is here today.

The thieves (in the story) left him stripped and half dead. **Stripped:** Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden were stripped of everything they had, the only thing left to them was their new mortal bodies

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God had made them complete, holy, righteous, but Satan, the oldest thief stripped them from all that, now they were without righteousness.

Half Dead: The Devil robbed them of everything they had including their immortality and left them half-dead, and as a result of that we all are dead spiritually. “...*we are dead in transgressions*” (Ephesians 2:1-5)

B) The Priest and the Levite represent ALL EMPTY Solutions for sinners. The Priest represents the condemnation of the Law. No love, no pity Just judgment, “*You should have not come this way. It is your fault.*” The priest may have thought The Levite represents religious instructions and ceremonies.

Or, he might have said: For example: “I can tell you the route you should have taken.” “The route you should take next time.” Etc.

Neither of these would help the poor, naked, bleeding, half-dead traveler in his need. No matter how much counselling or preaching or judging would have made this man better, he would have died there.

The human heart is in need of more than exposition, judgment and instruction.

And while human beings are hurting and slowly dying spiritually, emotionally and physically, there are those who will not move a finger to help, yet they will glow with self righteousness and be quick to judge.

C) The Good Samaritan Represents Jesus, the Saviour.

The Samaritan, as all Samaritans was a rejected person.

Jews considered the Samaritans half breeds and rejected them. So was Jesus, rejected and despised by His own. In **Isaiah 53:4** we read “*H was despised and rejected by men.*”

Just like the Samaritan, Jesus had a destination. He knew why He had come and where He was going. In **Luke 19:10** we read: “*For the Son of man (Jesus) came to seek and to save what was lost.*”

The Good Samaritan had compassion on the injured man, and helped him. Jesus had compassion on us the lost and injured, and He gave His life for us.

The Good Samaritan bound up his wounds, getting right to the problem.

Jesus came to heal our wounds and save people from death.

The Samaritan poured wine to wash the man’s wounds clean.

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Jesus poured His blood to disinfect and wash our wounds clean and give us life.

The Samaritan poured oil on the wounds to sooth the pain and heal the wounds.

Oil is a symbol of the Holy Spirit who came to south, heal and help us.

The Samaritan “took care of him.” Even afterward “He took him to an Inn”.

As a matter of fact the Samaritan paid for all the care the injured man needed until the Samaritan returned (v.35).

Jesus is still looking for and finding the injured, the wounded and the dying to help them, save them and give them eternal life with Him in Heaven.

I am one of those who Jesus found and saved, I was lost, wounded and injured by sin and rejected by those who went by. But then Jesus **My Good Samaritan** came along and washed my wounds and poured the Holy Spirit on me, not because I deserved His attention, but because He loved me the way I was.

Jesus my **Good Samaritan** Paid it ALL and He promised to take me and all those who he has saved to be with Him forever.

Please meet my GOOD SAMARITAN, Jesus Christ our LORD.