

## Lesson 15: The Good Samaritan and the Feast of Dedication

The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)  
May 19, 2021

### The Lawyer's Question

Luke 10:25, "And behold, a certain lawyer **stood up** and **made trial** of him, saying, **Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?**"

- This Lawyer *nomikos*, was not like our attorneys.
- Likely a scribe *grammateis*.
  - The scribes studied the law and often copied it to manuscripts.
- The lawyer wished to make trial of the skill of Jesus.

### The Lawyer's Question

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"Jews consider the Law to consist of two primary elements: (a) the **Pentateuch** or Mosaic Code (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy); and (b) the oral traditions which later were written and became the **Talmud** consisting of the **Mishna** (the authoritative traditions of the Jewish people) and the **Gemara** (the rabbinic interpretations and commentaries on the Law)."

(C.G. Caldwell, *Luke*, Truth Commentaries, page 624)

### The Lawyer's Question

Luke 10:25, "And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and made trial of him, saying, **Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?**"

- The Lawyer asked a good question based on a common theme in the Bible. (Daniel 12:2; Matthew 19:29; John 3:15; 5:39; 10:28; 17:3; Romans 6:23; 1 Timothy 6:12; 1 John 1:2)
- The Rich Young Ruler asked this same question. Matthew 19:16ff; Mark 10:17; Luke 18:18-23

### Jesus' Answer to the Question

Luke 10:26, "And he said unto him, **What is written in the law? how readest thou?**"

#### Typical response from Jesus.

- What is written ... Matthew 4:4, 7, 10; Matthew 12:3, 5; Matthew 19:3ff; Matthew 22:31; Mark 12:10, 26; Luke 6:3
- What does the text say? And what does this mean?
  - Luke 10:27, "And he answering said, *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.*"
- Lawyer correctly answers. Deuteronomy 6:5; Leviticus 19:18
  - Same answer given in other instances. Matthew 22:34-40; Mark 12:28-34

### Jesus' Answer to the Question

Luke 10:28, "And he said unto him, *Thou hast answered right: **this do, and thou shalt live.***"

#### The meaning of the LAW ...

- He would have to have more in his spiritual life than doing rites, observances, traditions, and ceremonies of the Law.
- He would have to be filled with love for God and for his fellow men. Doing means loving. cf. Luke 7:44-50

### **Jesus' Answer to the Question**

Luke 10:29, "*But he, **desiring to justify himself**, said unto Jesus, **And who is my neighbor?***"

- The lawyer desired to appear blameless, to vindicate himself, and show that he had kept the law.
- The Pharisees believed that the Jews only were to be regarded as neighbors, and that their obligation to "love thy neighbor" did not extend at all. (cf. Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 5:43-48)
- Passages regarding "*respect of persons.*"
  - 2 Chronicles 19:7; Proverbs 24:23; 28:21; Acts 10:34-45; Romans 2:1-11; James 2:1ff; 1 Peter 1:17