

# Jesus, The Good Samaritan

- *Luke 10:30-37*

## ➤ READ SCRIPTURE

- This is one of the most well told stories in the N.T., and I love this story b/c of the depth of the detail & the extreme that the writer goes to share with us the love we should have for others.
- But this morning as we talk about this story, I want to take a little different twist as to the scenario of this story if I can & share with you how Jesus is our Good Samaritan.
  - Summary of Story
- Now as you read this story, it is easy to see how we as the church should not only be willing to help others, but we should be looking to help others as we go throughout our day.
  - The love of the church cannot just be contained to the four walls of this building, but needs to be spread to the community, to our neighbors, and certainly to those who do not know Jesus Christ, AMEN?
  - Far too many times we become too busy or too consumed with our own agenda & we walk right past the needs of others.
  - And even though Jesus was busy traveling & teaching during His earthly ministry, we see that He took time to care for the needs of others.
- But if you will look with me this morning at this story under a different set of lenses, I want to show you how in many ways each of us have traveled this same road, & thank God Jesus, our Good Samaritan, came along our way to deliver us, to clean us up & to pay our debt.

## 1. The Robber (Sin)

- In this particular account, I want you to look at the robber not so much as a physical being, but as sin and what Satan seeks to do to each of our lives.
  - John 10:10 – “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:”
- Jesus makes it very clear to each of us that Satan is coming not just to entice you or to entertain you, but he is seeking to completely destroy each of our lives.
  - There are some here this morning who have not yet received Christ as your Savior. You have reasoned with yourself that now is not the time & that you will accept Christ later on. I urge you today to rethink that decision. By rejecting Christ today, you are being led down a path that will only lead to destruction. This is the path that Satan seeks everyone to follow.
    - The alcoholic never planned on allowing that poison to ruin his body, his relationships, and his life. But sin has significant consequences.
    - The addict never planned on allowing that substance to completely destroy their life & leave them hopeless, but that is the path that sin leads you down.
    - You may say this morning, “Wait a minute Preacher, I’m not a bad person. I have not done any wicked sin in my life.” But if you have yet to accept Christ, you are still headed down the road to destruction.
  - Let me say young people, I am so proud of each of you, I am grateful for those that got to go to camp, I think many of you are heading in the right direction & seeking to please God with your lives; but if Satan can trip you up & destroy your testimony, he can render you ineffective for Christ. Don’t allow him to have a foothold in your life. Keep your relationship with God pure.
  - Adults, many of you have been on this journey with Christ for some time now. But don’t be deceived into thinking you are above the tempting’s of Satan.

- You see, the robber came, not to make a friend, not to have a good time, but he came to do harm & to take everything that this man had. And by the time the robber had left, the man had nothing, was left hopeless, in pain and agony, and he was left to die.
- You see, I don't think there is a better picture of sin than that. We sometimes look at sin in our rose colored glasses & will even wink at sin oftentimes in our lives. But what we need to look at is where sin leaves us when it is finished.
  - James 1:14-15 – “But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”
- Just to be honest this morning, some of you are playing with sin that you have told yourself that you can handle. But that's just another lie, b/c in and of ourselves we will fall to sin & its consequences every single time. Why? Because we are human, and the Bible says our flesh is weak.
  - Romans 7:18-20 – “For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.”
  - Mark 14:38 – “Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.”
    - Do you know the events surrounding this statement by Jesus? This was in the Garden. The time when Jesus needed His disciples to pray for Him more than ever; and yet they were so weak that they continued to fall asleep.
  - “But Preacher, it's not that bad. It's not as bad as what others are doing.”
    - The moment you begin comparing yourself to others instead of God, you know you are on the wrong track.
    - Aside from this, the question you need to ask yourself when dealing with any kind of temptations is this ... “Will this help my relationship with God & draw me closer to Him?”
      - “Preacher, it's just a game ...”
      - “It's just a party ...”
      - “It's just a group of friends ...”
      - NO – Leave it alone & flee from it.
      - YES – Prayerfully consider God's will.
- Sin is a robber. It is seeking to take something from you & leave your life destroyed.

## **2. The Religious**

- In this story we see that several religious leaders passed by & saw this man in his condition, yet they offered no help.
- Now listen to me carefully & understand what I am saying this morning. The reason the Christian life doesn't “work” for some folks is b/c they never take it to the level of a relationship with God. All they ever see is a bunch of rules & laws, thou shalts & thou shalt nots.
  - They come into the church, try to attend half-way faithfully for a while, give a little money in the offering plate, and may even get involved in Sunday School or the choir for a while.
  - But before long, a storm in their life comes, this storm rocks them violently, and all they have to cling onto is a bunch of rules & rituals, and that will never sustain them, much less help them to grow.

- So after giving it a try for a while, they throw in the towel & proclaim, “Church is just not for me.”
- As sad as it was that the religious leaders passed by & never helped this man, the truth is many today are seeking religion alone to help them & bring satisfaction to their life. But religion alone will always leave you empty. But Jesus can satisfy the thirsting of your soul.

### **3. The Redeemer**

- Now for all practical purposes, if anybody had any reason not to get involved in the situation, it was the Samaritan.
- The Jews & the Samaritans did not get along with one another. They did not like one another & did not have dealings with each other.
- But on this day, the Samaritan left tradition to the side & the Bible tells us that he ...

#### **a. Came To Him**

- i. Listen, this man is hurting. He is in pain. Granted, he probably shouldn't have been on this road in the first place;
  - 1. The Bible states specifically that he went “down”, and I think that is for us.
  - 2. We have all been “down” a road we had no business going down & we knew it often times. But when you need help, all that doesn't matter anymore.
- ii. This young man traveled a road he shouldn't have been on, but right now he needs some help & he can't get to any help. If he is going to get any help, help will have to find him.
- iii. And in walks the Samaritan. When this young man could not go seeking help, help came seeking after him.
  - 1. I am so glad this morning that as the old song goes, “When I could not come to where He was, He came to me.”
- iv. I promise you, this young man was glad that the Samaritan came to Him. In his moment of need, he was glad someone cared enough to stop & help.

#### **b. Showed Compassion**

- i. He had compassion for this man that the robbers had left for dead & the religious folks dared not to touch. The Samaritan, of all people, felt sorrow for him & had compassion on him. In other words he got so close to him that he saw his need & this Samaritan was the only one who could help.
- ii. It wasn't about what others would think, it wasn't about rules & rituals, here was a man that if somebody didn't do something, was not going to make it much longer.
- iii. It wasn't about what nationality he was, it wasn't about how much right or wrong he had done, it wasn't about whether he was wealthy or poor ... this man had a need & he needed help. Who would take the time to stop & help this man in need?
  - 1. You see, every single one of us have either walked this road spiritually, or we are walking this very moment.
  - 2. Do you remember when sin had devastated your life, took everything from you, and left you broken & ashamed?
    - a. In a time like that in your life, the last thing you need is religion. You don't need condemnation or judgment, you are looking for mercy, right?
  - 3. And whether you used to be on that road or you find yourself on that road this morning, Jesus stands there offering compassion if you will just trust in Him.

- a. How foolish would it have been for this man to refuse help from the Samaritan?
- b. And yet so many times, we are laying there hopeless in our sin, having been beaten up by sin, and we turn away the ONLY one who can change our situation & bring help to our troubled lives.

**c. Brought Healing**

- i. I admire the Samaritan for even stopping in the first place. But that wasn't enough. He wanted to help bring healing to his life.
- ii. Two specific things that he did physically that we can relate to spiritually:
  - 1. **Bound his wounds** – That meant he was stopping the bleeding & seeking to comfort him.
  - 2. **Pouring in oil and wine** – Now he is seeking to bring healing & restoration to his life. This is a picture of the Holy Spirit.
    - a. This is what sustains us through life.
    - b. This is what brings comfort & encouragement to us in our days of trouble.
    - c. This is God strengthening our faith & restoring us.
- iii. What an amazing thing that God would even come to us, but He comforts us & doesn't want to leave us in our broken state, but seeks to bring healing & restoration to our lives.
- iv. And we could certainly praise this young man for doing all these things, but if he hadn't done step 4, he would have been left undone.

**d. Paid His Debt**

- i. He came to where he was, he stopped to show compassion, he mended his wounds & brought healing to his life, and now he pays a debt he cannot pay.
  - 1. Remember, sin has left this man bankrupt, he has nothing & no way to repay.
  - 2. Yet the Good Samaritan willingly pays his debt and when he walks away his statement reads, "PAID IN FULL".
- ii. My friend this morning, sin has left each of us spiritually bankrupt. We have no way to buy our way to Heaven, find favor in the eyes of God or stand before Him as righteous.
- iii. But Jesus came to this earth & He paid our debt. He paid a debt that we could never pay. And today, He offers that same gift to you this morning.
  - 1. Revelation 22:17 – "And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."
  - 2. Revelation 3:20 – "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

➤ **Have you trusted Christ today? Do you know Him as your Savior? Don't reject Him any longer. Don't allow sin to continue to destroy your life. Trust in Him today & allow the Good Samaritan to mend your wounds & bring healing to your life.**