

Compassion: The Good Samaritan

(Luke 10:25-37)

- Introduction:
1. The gospel of Luke is sometimes called the “gospel of compassion.”
 2. That is because in Luke, emphasis is placed upon Jesus’ compassion and kindness toward the poor, sick, and downtrodden.
 3. Luke’s gospel account makes it clear that Jesus didn’t just come for the Jews, or the righteous, but for all men, including those whom God’s people may have distained.
 4. Let’s examine what we can learn about compassion from the parable of the Good Samaritan.

I. The Background to the Parable

- A. A lawyer was testing Jesus. (Luke 10:25).
 1. To some people, Christianity is about syllogisms, and arguments.
 2. But it is more than that.
 3. It is about right doctrine, but it is also about right living.
- B. He asked Jesus what he needed to do to inherit eternal life (Luke 10:25).
- C. Upstaged by Jesus’ answer, he tries to save face by asking, “Who is my neighbor” (Luke 10:29).
- D. Jesus, then, answers with the parable of the good Samaritan.

II. Lessons Learned from the Parable

- A. Compassion Is Inconvenient (Luke 10:30-33).
- B. Compassion Feels Something (Luke 10:33).
- C. Compassion Does Something (Luke 10:34).
- D. Compassion Costs Something (Luke 10:35).
- E. Compassion Demonstrates or Reenacts God’s Compassion for Us (Luke 10:36-37).

- Conclusion:
1. In answer to the question, “What must I do to have eternal life?” Jesus answered, “Love God and your fellow man.”
 2. But to love God is to do as he commands (John 14:15).