

The Good Samaritan

Lesson • 10 (Lk. 10:25-37; Mt. 19:16-22; Mk. 10:17-22; Mt. 5:43-48; Lk. 6:27-36;
COL 376-389; DA 497-505)

Introductory Matters

1. Was the story of the good Samaritan created by Jesus? “This was no imaginary scene but an _____ occurrence, which was known to be _____ represented. The _____ and the _____ who had passed by on the other side were in the company that listened to Christ’s words.” (DA 497)
2. What are the two dimensions of the parable? **First dimension:** “In the story of the good Samaritan, Jesus gave a picture of _____ and _____ mission.” (DA 503)
Second dimension: Jesus said to the young lawyer: “Go, and do _____ likewise.” (Lk. 10:37)
3. What is the central lesson of the parable? “In the story of the good Samaritan, Christ illustrates the nature of true _____. He shows that it consists not in _____, creeds, or titles, but in the performance of loving _____, in bringing the greatest _____ to others, in genuine goodness.” (DA 497)
4. What great question did a young lawyer ask Jesus? “Master, what shall I _____ to inherit eternal _____?” (Lk. 10:25)

Note: The word “lawyer” denotes an expert in matters relating to the writings of Moses. We might say that he had a PhD in theology. On another occasion a rich young ruler asked Jesus a similar question.

The Rich Young Ruler

1. What question did a rich young ruler ask Jesus? “Good Master, what good thing shall I _____, that I may have eternal _____?” (Mt. 19:16)

Note: The rich young ruler asked the same question as the lawyer. They both wanted to know what they needed to do to inherit eternal life.

2. How did Jesus answer the rich young ruler’s question? “If thou wilt enter into [eternal] _____, keep the _____.” (Mt. 19:17).

Note: This answer would certainly have made many Seventh-day Adventists happy. After all, Aren’t we the people “who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus”? (Rev. 12:17)

3. When the rich young ruler asked which commandments, Jesus quoted each of the commandments on the second table of the law except one (Mt. 19:18-19). Which one did He omit? _____ (the answer is in Exodus 20:17). Which one did Jesus include instead and why? _____ (the answer is in Leviticus 19:18)

4. What indication do we have that the rich young ruler considered himself an exemplary moral person? He answered Jesus: "All these things [the second table of the law] I _____ from my youth up: what _____ I yet?" (Mt. 19:20)

Note: The rich young ruler would have made a fine church member. He "kept" the Sabbath, faithfully tithed, fasted twice a week and kept all the health laws. Perhaps he would have made an outstanding church leader!

5. When the ruler asked what he lacked, Jesus answered: "If thou wilt be _____, go and _____ that thou hast, and give to the _____, and thou shalt have treasure in _____: and come and follow Me." (Mt. 19:21)

Note: Notice that we must be perfect to inherit eternal life. We usually think of perfection as "ceasing to do evil" or as "gaining the victory over sin" or even as "perfect obedience to the commandments of God." But perfection entails much more than this. It is far more than an external legal observance to the commandments. The apostle Paul explained "Love is the fulfilling of the law (Romans 13:10). According to Matthew 22:34-40, love is the hinge of the law.

The parallel account in Mark 10:21 provides additional details about this episode. Mark explains that Jesus **loved him**. He also tells us that Jesus said to the ruler: "One thing thou lackest." (Mk. 10:21). Putting Matthew and Mark together, Jesus said: "One thing you lack to be perfect and thus to enter into eternal life." In Mark's account we also find Jesus adding the words: "**take up the cross**, and follow me." (Mk. 10:21)

6. What was the young man's response to the words of Jesus? "But when the young man heard that saying, he went away _____: for he had great _____." (Mt. 19:22)

Back to the Good Samaritan

1. Why do you suppose Jesus insisted on having the lawyer answer his own question? (Lk. 10:26) "He required the answer from the _____ himself. . . . They [the religious leaders] could not _____ Him for sanctioning that which had been advanced by an _____ of the law." (COL 377)

2. Did the lawyer give the correct answer to his own question? Jesus said to the lawyer: “Thou hast answered _____: this do, and thou shalt live [eternal life].” (Lk. 10:28). Did the lawyer give the same answer that Jesus had given to the rich young ruler’s question? _____.
3. Was the lawyer practicing what he preached? “But he, willing to justify _____, said unto Jesus, And who is my _____? (Lk. 10:29)

The Cosmic Application of the Parable

1. In the cosmic application of the parable, what is represented by the thieves? “The thief cometh not, but for to _____, and to kill, and to _____: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more _____.” (John 10:10)
2. Who is represented by the man who was robbed, stripped and wounded? “Man has been deceived, _____, robbed, and ruined by _____, and left to perish.” (DA 503)
3. Before man sinned he was covered with a glorious robe of light. What did this garment represent? “He hath covered me with the _____ of _____.” (Isaiah 61:10). In what sense, then, did Satan strip man? _____
_____ (see also, DA 504)
4. The man in the parable was left half dead. In what way does this parallel our condition? “Even when _____ were _____ in sins.” (Ephesians 2:5)
5. **Thought Question:** Who do you suppose is represented by the priest and the Levite? _____

(Hint: The priest and Levite were both religious leaders in Israel)

Note: The priest was the most calloused of the two. He saw the wounded man from a distance and didn’t even approach him. The Levite, on the other hand, came to where the man was and looked upon him and then passed him by. Both priest and Levite made great claims to piety. They were religious people. They were morally righteous outwardly and claimed to keep God’s law. But they had no love and thus were transgressors of the very law they claimed to keep.

6. What commands in the law of Moses were the priest and the Levite ignoring? (Write down the references) _____ (COL 500)
7. Who is represented by the Good Samaritan? We are told that Jesus “left His glory, to come to _____ rescue. He found _____ ready to die and he undertook our case. He _____ our wounds. He covered us with His _____ of righteousness. He opened to us a refuge of safety, and made complete provision for us at His own charges. He died to redeem us.” (DA 504)

8. Why was it so revolutionary for the good Samaritan to help a Jew? John tells us that the “Jews have no _____ with the Samaritans” (John 4:9). When the Jews wanted to offend Jesus they said: “Thou art a _____ and hast a devil.” (John 8:48)

Note: As it was unthinkable for a Samaritan to even touch a Jew, so it is unfathomable that the pure and holy Jesus would condescend to come in contact with sinners such as us. The Samaritans were enemies of the Jews and yet the good Samaritan saved the Jew. In the same way we are enemies of Jesus but He came to save us. (Romans 5:10) The good Samaritan had no vested interests in helping the wounded man. He practiced disinterested benevolence. He helped simply because the man was in need.

9. What remedies were applied for the healing of the wounded man? “And [the Samaritan] went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in _____ and _____.” (Lk. 10:34)
10. What is represented by the wine? Jesus said about the wine: “this is my _____ of the new testament, which is shed for many for the _____ of sins.” (Mt. 26:28). What is symbolized by the oil? “Not by might, nor by power, but by my _____, saith the Lord of hosts.” (Zechariah 4:6)
11. **Thought Question:** What do you think is represented by the inn and the innkeeper? _____

(Hint: Revelation 22:12)

12. What is represented by the resources which the good Samaritan gave to the innkeeper for the care of the wounded man? “And he [Jesus] gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; _____ the _____ of the saints, for the work of the _____, for the edifying of the body of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:11-12)
13. What is represented by the departure of the Good Samaritan? “He [Jesus] was _____ up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.” (Acts 1:9) What is represented by the good Samaritan’s return? Jesus said: “I will come _____.” (John 14:3)
14. The good Samaritan said to the innkeeper: “When I _____ again, I will _____ thee.” What will Jesus bring for his faithful people when he comes again? “And, behold, I _____ quickly; and my _____ is with me, to give to every _____ according as his work shall be.” (Rev. 22:12)

The Second Application of the Parable

1. After telling the parable, Jesus exhorted the lawyer with the following words: “Go, and do thou _____.” (Lk. 10:37) We are all to be “good Samaritans”.

2. The apostle John affirms: “He that saith he abideth in him [Jesus] ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.” (I John 2:6)
3. According to Ellen White, who is our neighbor? “It has no reference to _____, color or _____ distinction. Our neighbor is every person who needs our _____. Our neighbor is every soul who is wounded and bruised by the _____. Our neighbor is every one who is the _____ of God.” (COL 376)
4. Is profession of the truth enough to save us? “Our profession may be as high as heaven, but it will _____ neither ourselves nor our fellow men unless we are _____. A right example will do more to benefit the world than all our _____.” (COL 383).
5. What is true gospel religion? “The _____ of the soul by the working of the Holy Spirit is the implanting of Christ’s nature in humanity. Gospel religion is _____ in the life—a living, active principle.” (COL 384)
6. What is the basis of godliness and how can it be obtained? “_____ is the basis of godliness. Whatever the profession, no man has pure love to God unless he has unselfish love for his brother. But we can never come into possession of this spirit by _____ to love others. What is needed is the love of Christ in the _____. When self is merged in Christ, love _____ forth spontaneously.” (DoA 384)
7. How should we approach people who consider us enemies because our religion is different than theirs? “Where _____ of feeling exists because of difference in religion, much good may be done by personal _____. Loving ministry will break down _____, and win souls to God.” (COL 386)
8. How important is this matter of personal service to others? “By accepting this work of ministry we place ourselves in His _____, to be fitted for the courts of God. By rejecting it, we reject His instruction, and choose eternal _____ from His presence.” (COL 388-89)
9. How does loving our neighbor relate to loving God? “If a man _____, I love God, and hateth his _____, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath _____, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?” (I John 4:20)

Christian Perfection and the Good Samaritan

1. Jesus said to the rich young ruler “If you will enter _____,” He then said: “If you will be _____.” (Mt. 19:17, 21). The inescapable conclusion is that we must be perfect in order to enter into life. But what is perfection?
2. According to Jesus, how is perfection revealed? Jesus told the rich young ruler: “Keep the _____. He later stated: “Go and sell that thou hast, and _____ to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.” (Mt. 19:17,21)

Note: By comparing these two statements we clearly discern that keeping the commandments is revealed in the act of selling all and giving to the poor.

3. In the story of the good Samaritan, the true neighbor was the one who “showed _____” towards the man who was wounded. (Lk. 10:37). Don’t forget the word “**mercy**” in this text because we will come back to it momentarily!
 4. In Matthew 5:48 Jesus commanded: “Be ye therefore _____, even as your heavenly Father is _____.”
 5. Examine the preceding context (verses 38-47) of Matthew 5:48. How does this passage help us comprehend what it means to be perfect? _____

 6. It is clear that Luke 6:27-36 is parallel to Matthew 5:38-47. According to Matthew 5:48 Jesus commanded his followers to be _____. But according to Luke (6:36) Jesus commanded His followers to be _____. The conclusion is perfection means to be merciful as our Father in heaven is merciful!!
 7. In Matthew 25:31-46 we have the scene of the sheep and the goats. Jesus said to His followers: “Come, ye blessed of my Father, _____ the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” (Verse 34).
 8. Why did the sheep inherit the kingdom? “For I was hungred and ye gave _____ meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave _____ drink; I was a stranger, and ye took _____ in; naked and ye clothed _____; I was sick and ye visited _____; I was in prison, and ye came unto _____.” (Mt. 25:35-36)
- Note:** Notice that the righteous did not do these things directly for Jesus. They did them for Jesus in the person of His followers. This is indicated by the Jesus’ words: “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the _____ of these my brethren, ye have done it unto _____.” (Verse 40)
9. What was the great sin of the goats? “Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the _____ of these, ye did it not to _____.” (Verse 45). The sin of the goats was not the sin of commission but rather the sin of omission. We will not only be judged by the wrong we did but also by the good we should have done and didn’t!

