

A 'How To' Lesson on DOING Eternal Life- Samaritan Style! Luke 10:25-37

Hebrew thinking- they are more interested in “deed than creed.” No Sys Theo.

Parable- Meant to help believers see the truth, but to others it was meant to conceal (Matthew 13:10-16). Word literally means to “throw alongside”.

Priest- Of the family of Aaron who would offer sacrifices and incense to God in the temple. Politically part of the sect of Sadducees who only believed in literal (strict interpretation) of Torah (also called Pentateuch).

Levite- Of the tribe of Levi who would help assist the priests in temple service.

Lawyer- Subgroup of the Pharisees who believed in a less literal interpretation of Torah, but also believed in the rest of the Old Testament.

Samaritan- Ethnic half-breeds who hated and were hated by the Jews (John 4:9). The ultimate insult was to call someone a Samaritan (John 8:48). Samaritans worshiped God not from Jerusalem, but from Mt. Gerazim. They only focused on the 5 books of Moses (Genesis through Deuteronomy).

LESSON 1- To truly DO the fruit of Eternal Life we must LOVE GOD

- A. The basis of eternal life is to have an authentic relationship with GOD (Gen 15:6; Mark 12:28-30; John 17:3; Lev 18:5; Rom 5:1- Shalom; John 5:24)
- B. The actions of those who love God will be evidenced by DOING (10:25, 28, 37; James 2:20; John 6:28- works of belief; Titus 1:16; Matt 7:21-23)

Going Deeper God wants us to know Him and love Him with ALL our beings!

LESSON 2- To truly DO the fruit of Eternal Life we must LOVE OTHERS

- A. The priest and Levite had their spiritual priorities UPSIDE DOWN (Hos 6:6; Matthew 9:13; 12:7; Compare Lev 19:18; 21:1-24 unclean laws)
- B. The Samaritan was led by compassion; not how to justify HIMSELF (Lev 19:18; 34; Ex 23:5; The Samaritan reversed everything the robbers did)

Going Deeper God wants us to love and demonstrate a love for each other that costs us!

How do we love ourselves?

- When we have a need, we attempt to meet it.
- When we have a hurt, we attempt to heal it.
- When we have a responsibility, we attempt to fulfill it.
- When we have a prayer request, we pray for it! *Go and Do likewise to others!*

Instead of asking who is my neighbor, ask yourself how good of a neighbor am I?

Other textual notes:

Jesus succinctly tells the story of a man being accosted by thieves. Yet in the story the Good Samaritan undoes all these things which the thieves did and fulfills the love of God and neighbor.

The man was:

- 1) Traveling to Jericho
- 2) Accosted by robbers (evil)
- 3) Stripped of clothing
- 4) Wounded
- 5) Left Abandoned
- 6) Half dead (left to die)

The Samaritan DID:

- 1) Was journeying
- 2) Brought compassion to the man (instead of evil)
- 3) Bandaged the man with cloth (instead of stripping him)
- 4) Brought healing to his wounds through oil and wine (instead of wounding him)
- 5) Set him on his own animal (instead of abandoning him)
- 6) Took care to bring healing or life (instead of leaving him to die)

It is our responsibility to undo the evil in our world through the Love of God and bring healing through the Gospel. This will include doing this at our own personal cost.

- There were 1st century debates between Jews about which laws were the most important. Jesus gave His ruling on this debate (see Mark 12:28-34; Matt 22:35-40; 23:23; 5:19; 9:13; cf. Hos 6:6; Matt 12:1-8; 19:16-22).
- Sadducees- Jewish sect which included priest, Levites and who were the wealthy aristocrats. Priorities were to: 1) love God; 2) keep ceremonial and purity laws; 3) love neighbor; 4) the rest of the commandments in various order
- Pharisees- Jewish sect which included scribes and lawyers. Priorities were to: 1) love God; 2) love neighbor; 3) love Sabbath; 4) purity laws; 5) the rest of the commandments in various order