



All Citizens Christian Church Calgary

Bible Study: Thursday 21st November, 2013. **THE PARABLES OF JESUS Part V** The Good Samaritan

TEXT: Luke 10: 25-37

INTRODUCTION: The story of the Good Samaritan has been told in so many places and analyzed in several other ways. Many organizations have adopted this title as name. Unfortunately many have not really sat down to imbibe the reason for the story. It is sad to see people talk about the story of the Good Samaritan and they are still very discriminatory. It is interesting to see Churches preach this message and still practice one form of prejudice or the other. May the Lord expose His words unto us today so that we will be able to see where we stand as per the story of the Good Samaritan. A lesson in Social and spiritual responsibility

DISCUSSION:

This discussion can be broken down into two

A: The discussion between Jesus and the Lawyer

- a. Who are the people involved in this discussion?
- b. What was the question the lawyer asked Jesus?
- c. Why did he ask Jesus that question?
- d. What was the issue in the question?
- e. What question did Jesus ask the lawyer?
- f. What was the lawyer's answer?
- g. What did the answer of the lawyer tell about the lawyer and what did the answer of Jesus show about the lawyer?

The answer of the lawyer showed that he knew the law but the answer of Jesus showed that he was not doing the law. How many of us know this law but never practice it. According to Galatians, the law will not give any believer victory.

- h. What was the next question that the lawyer asked Jesus and what do you think or suppose was his expectation?

The lawyer was almost going to justify himself and feel good that he is doing the right thing before Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan

B: The parable itself as told by Jesus Christ.

- a. How many persons were involved in the parable?
- b. Who was the person going from Jerusalem to Jericho?
- c. What is the spiritual significance of this trip?
- d. If you were the wounded man how will you feel about life?

LESSONS FROM THE PARABLE

Who is our Neighbor?

A. A NEIGHBOR IS ONE IN NEED WHOM WE CAN HELP...

1. One might think that a neighbor is one with whom we share affinities
 - a. Such as being of the same race, nationality, or religion
 - b. I.e., anyone who is not considered your enemy
2. Yet Jesus put such a concept to rest by using the Samaritan as an example
 - a. The Samaritans were different in race, nationality and religion from the Jews
 - b. There was animosity between them -. Jn 4:9; Lk 9:52-53
 - c. Though considered enemies, the Samaritan was helping a Jew in need
3. And so it is that Christians are to show "hospitality" (love of strangers") - Rom 12:13; Matt 5:43-48; Gal 6:10

Your neighbor, then, is anyone in need whom you have the ability to help!

B. THE INCONGRUITY OF DIVORCING NEIGHBORLINESS FROM RELIGION...

1. Of the three passers-by in the parable, the first two should have been the first to help
 - a. The priest and the Levite should have been influenced by their religion to help
 - b. Indeed they were taught to love the stranger - Lev 19:33-34; Deut 10:17-19
 2. When they separated neighborliness from their religion, they became hypocritical
 - a. For the priest would teach the Law, and the Levite would assist in the service
 - b. But failing to "practice what they preach" showed how shallow their devotion to their faith really was
 3. As Christians, we need to be sure to practice "pure and undefiled religion", otherwise we deceive ourselves - cf. James 1:22, 26-27
- What kind of religion do we have?

C. THE COST OF COMPASSION...

1. A willingness to cross social barriers
 - a. As Jesus illustrated in using a Samaritan in this parable
 - b. There should be no religious, racial, or national barriers to showing compassion!
2. A willingness to take risks
 - a. The Samaritan took a great risk by stopping to help
 - 1) What if the robbers were still near by?
 - 2) What if other thieves came by on this road known as "The Way of Blood"?
 - b. So Christians are called upon to take risks - cf. Lk 6:30
 - 1) How do we know people won't take advantage of our generosity?
 - 2) Perhaps this is an area where we need to have faith in God
3. A willingness to set aside busy schedules
 - a. The Samaritan was on a journey, but took the time to stop and care for the man
 - b. Jesus taught us to take the time to show compassion even when forced - Matt 5:41
 - 1) The first mile may have been forced
 - 2) But the second mile was one to be given out of love
4. A willingness to make sacrifices
 - a. The Samaritan sacrificed more than just time and energy
 - 1) He used some of his own provisions - Lk 10:34
 - 2) He even offered an open-ended agreement to provide for his help - Lk 10:35
 - b. Jesus taught His disciples to be willing to make sacrifices - Lk 6:29-30,34-35
 - c. In so doing, we are truly followers of God and walking in love - Eph 5:1-2

CONCLUSION

1. With the parable of "The Good Samaritan", we are challenged to a higher standard of love
 - a. Higher in that the definition of "neighbor" is more inclusive
 - b. Higher in that the definition of "compassion" is greater

2. This should not be surprising in light of what Jesus told His disciples earlier:

"For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matt 5:20)

3. What is your righteousness like? That of the priest and Levite, or of the Samaritan?
 - a. Only as we emulate the example of the good Samaritan, can it be said that our righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees!

b. Only then do we have the assurance of entering the kingdom of heaven!

c. Therefore let us heed the words of Jesus to the lawyer who tested Him:

"Go and do likewise."