

Luke 10 pt 3 vs. 25-37 NASB

And a lawyer stood up and put Him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ And He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?" ²⁷ And he answered, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." ²⁸ And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE." ²⁹ But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ Jesus replied and said, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among robbers, and they stripped him and beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. ³¹ And by chance a priest was going down on that road, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³² Likewise a Levite also, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, who was on a journey, came upon him; and when he saw him, he felt compassion, ³⁴ and came to him and bandaged up his wounds, pouring oil and wine on *them*; and he put him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ On the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I return I will repay you.' ³⁶ Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers' hands?" ³⁷ And he said, "The one who showed mercy toward him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do the same."

Law of Moses

Law of Love

1. Dr. Luke is taking us on a journey to know who Jesus is
 - a. He's given us details about His birth
 - b. How Jesus called His disciples
 - c. His teachings
 - d. His miracles
2. Now Luke is drawing a picture of what a disciple looks like
 - a. Posture of his heart with God and with his neighbor
 - b. Posture of his mind in learning sitting at The Lord's feet
 - c. Posture of his soul before the Father in prayer
3. Our Lord is on His journey down to Jerusalem

4. He sends out the 70 to preach the gospel
 - a. As the 70 return, Jesus tells them not to rejoice that demons are subject to them, but that their names are written in heaven
 - b. Jesus prays to the Father and rejoices
 - c. Although He's known as a religious man, He has joy
 - d. This is unique as the religious typically don't have much joy
5. **He's not like other religious leaders**
 - a. When He speaks, things happen
 - b. When He commands, demons flee
 - c. He gives this power to others and they have results
6. Jesus has clearly gotten the attention of the people and the religious leaders
7. Our passage opens with a religious man who wanted to trap Him

I. Law of Moses

1. A scribe asks Jesus a question to test Him, not because he wanted truth
 - a. The lawyer already knew the answer (or so he thought)
 - b. It's an important question on the mind of every religious person
 - c. What about eternal life? How to I inherit it?
2. In the Jewish mind (religious) a person must keep certain laws and earn their way into heaven
3. The common understanding is to follow the commandments of Moses

4. He clearly studied the law and knows the big 10
 - a. You shall have no other gods before Me.
 - b. You shall not make idols.
 - c. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
 - d. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

 - e. Honor your father and your mother.
 - f. You shall not murder.
 - g. You shall not commit adultery.
 - h. You shall not steal.
 - i. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
 - j. You shall not covet.

5. **He also know that the 10 main commandments are mainly stemming from 2 basic commands**
 - a. Love God with all your heart...
 - b. Love others as yourself

6. **There is a strong correlation between the 2**

7. **Loving others is the natural result of loving God**
 - a. One stems from the other

 - b. True love for God gives birth to love for others – the fruit

 - c. Lack of love for others will put into question a person's genuine love for God

8. The commandments were designed to show how we cannot keep God's standards
 - a. We cannot be perfect – it's not possible

9. These laws are designed to bring all people to Christ

- a. **Gal 3:24** Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.
 - b. It is designed to show us that we cannot do it on our own
 - c. No one is able to keep all of the law, all of the time
 - d. Breaking one of the laws = breaking all of the laws
 - e. **James 2:10** For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all.
10. Because this lawyer is a religious man who wants to keep the law and believes he's basically good, Jesus brings him back to the law
- a. This is the approach when dealing with religious or self righteous
 - b. [The Law] was meant to make the man honest, then humble...
(Heitzig)
 - c. You'll notice to the humble who already knows he's wretched, grace is shown
 - d. What does the law say, what is your reading of it?
11. And he answered, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND; AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." ²⁸ And He said to him, "You have answered correctly; DO THIS AND YOU WILL LIVE."
12. This man is trying to trap Jesus and the Lord finds something to praise him about
13. If you want eternal life, that's the condition, Love God with everything you've got and love other's as yourself

14. ²⁹ But wishing to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"
15. He's clearly loving God, no questions...
16. The question here is "who is my neighbor"?
17. There is a cultural background to this question. An ancient Jewish book of wisdom, Sirach 12:1-4 tells its readers not to help a sinner.
 - a. So, the lawyer's question is really an attempt to create a distinction, arguing that some people are neighbors and others are not, and that one's responsibility is only to love God's people (**NIV commentary**)
18. Although the lawyer had the law and knew the right answer, he missed the point completely
19. He wants to argue about the meaning of names, places
 - a. This is common practice with the Jews
 - i. Argue about what neighbor means
 - ii. Who is considered a sinner
 1. These are questions that will never be fully answered
20. Instead of arguing with the man, Jesus tells a story

II. Law of Love

1. **Love is a choice, not a feeling or emotion**
 - a. **Deut 6:5** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.
2. This is heavens perspective of who a neighbor is

- a. Jews would only consider their countrymen neighbors
 - b. All other people were considered unclean
 - c. And all non-Jews were placed in a category of those gentile dogs and were their enemies
 - d. The Samaritans however were a special kind of enemy
 - e. And the Jewish people hated their enemies
3. Jesus tells a story of a Jew (most likely) who was leaving Jerusalem for Jericho –
- a. A 17 mile stretch of dangerous road
 - b. Falling victim to thieves, they stripped him of his clothing
 - c. Wounded him and departed, leaving him half dead
 - d. And it just so happened that a certain priest came down that road, and seeing him, he passed by on the other side
 - e. A Levite also saw him and went to the other side
4. These two men on the road to Jericho had their reasons for not helping
- a. . . . they had no ointment and no first aid box . . .
 - b. no money . . . no donkey . . . it was a dangerous place to be
 - c. they had no defense against highway robbers,
 - d. better that it were only one man lying there and not two or three
 - e. . . . taking care of yourself was really the religious thing to do...
 - f. the sun was going down and it would soon be dark...
 - g. what could they do? What could anyone do? ...
 - h. They were warned about acting in such cases because they could be sued by the victim.
 - i. neither the priest nor the Levite wanted to be defiled as holy men by touching a body that might die while in their hands.

- j. There we are; many good reasons for not helping this victim as he lay bleeding there.
 - k. Enough reasons to satisfy both of them; the excuses flooded into their minds, a dozen of them, one a second, all of them telling both priest and Levite, "Keep moving on. Let someone else help the man." (**Thomas**)
 - l. But a certain Samaritan saw him and had compassion
 - i. One who was supposedly his enemy
 - m. he bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine
 - i. The **oil** would help to soothe the wounds, easing the pain
 - ii. The **wine**, containing alcohol, had an antiseptic effect on the man's wounds
 - n. he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.
 - i. Setting the man on his animal means the Samaritan walked
 - o. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you
 - p. So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?"
5. The lawyer can't even say the word Samaritan as the hatred is deep
- a. "the one who showed mercy"
 - b. "Go and do likewise"

6. Instead of arguing with the man, Jesus simply points out what heaven sees as a person's neighbor
7. Anyone who is in need
8. ...Neighbors are not determined by race, creed or gender; neighbors consist of anyone in need... (**Bock**)
9. So since you believe that you have love for God, allow me to show you the truth
 - a. To love God means to show mercy to those in need.
10. It means that in the same way we take care of ourselves and are concerned about our own interests, we should take care and have concern for the interests of others.
11. "Go and do likewise" should have driven the lawyer to his knees saying, have mercy on me a sinner
12. This is important for disciples of Jesus to understand
13. **Love is a choice, not a feeling or emotion**
 - a. **Deut 6:5** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.
 - b. **Psalms 18:1** I will love You, O Lord, my strength.
 - c. **Psalms 42:1** As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God.
 - d. **1 John 4:19** We love Him because He first loved us.
 - e. Loving God results in showing mercy and loving others
14. *If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also. ([1Jn 4:20-21](#))*

15. What if you don't have this kind of love, either for God or for man?
16. Then you are being honest with yourself & ready to receive God's grace
17. The truth is, none of us love God the way we should
18. Scripture tells us that it is possible
 - a. The Apostle Paul was rejected and beaten by the Jews, yet loved them
 - b. **Rom 9:3** for I could wish that I myself were condemned and cut off from the Messiah for the sake of my brothers, my own people,
 - c. Paul made a decision to follow Christ and to learn Him – to know Him and the fellowship of His sufferings
 - d. We're encouraged to follow that same pattern
19. Jesus reiterates in John 13
 - a. A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. ³⁵ By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."
20. You may be like John or James who is still wanting to call fire down
 - a. Stay the course, Jesus is not done with us yet
 - b. Some of us heard about the Cross but we haven't seen it yet

- c. A great sacrifice will happen there
- d. Much greater than the 17 mile journey
- e. Much greater than the stumbling upon & paying a great price
- f. This is a deliberate trip He's taking to find those laying by the side of the road
- g. He'll choose to die in our place and trade us life instead
- h. He'll rise in 3 days and seat us with Him in heavenly places
- i. He'll turn the selfish John into the Disciple of love
- j. **1 John 4:7** Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love