

THE MINISTRY OF THE LORD JESUS

Lesson Eighteen

THE MINISTRY OF REVELATION (1): THE LORD JESUS AS THE GOOD SAMARITAN

Burden to Impart:

In this lesson we see the perfection of the Lord Jesus' humanity. The Lord Jesus, like the good Samaritan, saw the helplessness of the sinful and fallen mankind (like the robbed, stripped, beaten, and half-dead man lying in the road of his downward journey of life) and was full of compassion and mercy. With love and compassion, mercy, faithfulness, and generosity He got involved with us and has taken the responsibility to see us fully saved, healed, and recovered at His return.

Memory Verse: "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun in you a good work will complete it until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6).

Facts to Teach: [Scriptural reading: Luke 10:25-37]

1. This lesson is the first of two lessons which reveal Christ in two special ways: 1) the Son of Man who saves us in the highest standard of morality (this reveals the perfection of His human virtues) and 2) the Son of God with the transcendent glory through whom God speaks to us (this reveals the glory of His divine nature).

2. In God's Word the two greatest commandments are to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love our neighbor as ourself. In order to give us an example of what it means to love our neighbor as ourself the Lord Jesus told us the parable of the good Samaritan. A picture is better than a thousand words. In this "picture" the Lord Jesus showed us how He loves us, will save us, and take care of us until He comes again.

- a. A man was going down from Jerusalem, the City of God (which was up on a mountain), to Jericho, a city which was accursed. This shows us a person who was going away from God and God's people, away from the place of God's blessing to a sinful place of sorrow and curse.
- b. While the erring man was going down he fell among robbers who stripped him of his clothing, robbed him of his possessions, beat him up, and left him mercilessly half-dead in the road. In such a condition he would soon die.
- c. A priest, who is one who was supposed to care for God's people, was also going down the same road. He would not even stop to see how the man was. He had no compassion at all so he simply passed by and left him there.
- d. Next, a Levite (the priest's helper) was also going down the same road. The Levite came near to the poor half-dead

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- man, took note of his condition and then mercilessly went on his way, offering no help whatsoever.
- e. Lastly, a Samaritan came down the road to the man. (Samaritans were very much looked down upon and despised by the Jews because they were a mixture of the Jews and the Gentiles. The Lord Jesus was mistakenly considered by the opposing Pharisees as a Samaritan so He likened Himself to one in this parable.)
- 1) When the Samaritan saw the robbed, naked, half-dead man lying on the road his heart was filled with compassion, sympathy, and concern. (Not like the cold, heartless priest and Levite.)
 - 2) The good Samaritan came to him and cared for his wounds, even using His own wine and oil. The wine was used to clean and disinfect his wounds (it is much better than water), and the oil was a kind of salve to soothe the torn and scratched skin.
 - 3) He placed the man on his own beast. The good Samaritan walked the rest of the journey and let the wounded man ride on his beast.
 - 4) He brought him to an inn for shelter (like the Lord brought us to the church).
 - 5) He himself took care of him in the inn (instead of resting and relaxing).
 - 6) He paid the innkeeper to continue the care of him as long as necessary for him to be fully recovered, promising to repay him everything that he spent when he came again.

QUESTIONS FOR LESSON EIGHTEEN

1. In the parable on the good Samaritan:
 - a) Who does the robbed, beaten, half-dead person represent?
 - b) Who does the good Samaritan represent?
2. The parable of the good Samaritan shows us that we are well able to save ourselves. True _____ False _____
3. The parable of the good Samaritan shows us that, "God helps those who help themselves." True _____ False _____
4. The parable of the good Samaritan shows us that while we are still weak and ungodly Christ loves us and will save us. True _____ False _____
5. After the good Samaritan treated the man's wounds, he left him in the road and went on alone. True _____ False _____
6. After we receive the Lord Jesus as our Savior He will take care of us until He comes again. True _____ False _____