

Luke 10: Interrogation, Counter Interrogation

Luke 10:30-37; Parables are familiar to people but not always correctly understood.

- ✓ Case and point, the good Samaritan is largely misunderstood.
 - ✓ We should expect that result considering the original intent of a parable: **Matthew 10:13-16, 34.**
 - ✓ Parables are riddles unless they are explained to us by the Holy Spirit.
 - ✓ Without a dependence on the Holy Spirit and an assumption that these are simple stories that are easily understood, the parables (especially this one) have had some bizarre interpretations throughout church history.
 - ✓ This is a very simple and attractive story, but it wasn't told in a vacuum, it was told in a special situation, and, without the context of that situation, we can come up with wrong conclusions.
 - ✓ Crazy stuff, right? Most wouldn't end up there, but we would end up with the conclusion that this is about helping people who are suffering which is only a secondary application of this parable.
 - ✓ The primary application is that Jesus attempting to get to the heart of a person who thinks he's saved but isn't.
 - ✓ Why is salvation such a big issue? Because it is the biggest issue!
 - ✓ Who cares if you are socially aware and meeting others needs if you miss Heaven?
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1. This story is part of a personal evangelism encounter between Jesus and a man who is missing heaven unless he realizes he's a sinner and repents.

- ✓ **Verse 25;** this lawyer stands up to trap Him in His words, this man was a lawyer of God's laws not civil or criminal laws.
 - ✓ This lawyer asks the most important question of all time: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" there's not a more important question than this.
 - ✓ Understand, he's not unsure of how to get there, he thinks he knows full well; he's trying to get Jesus to perjure Himself in front of the crowd, that, is his single goal.
 - ✓ Jesus' response is to quote a combination of **Deuteronomy 6:4-5** and **Leviticus 19:18.**
 - ✓ Knowing Jesus would answer this way, this lawyers' follow-up question was preplanned in order to get Jesus in a corner about the details of interpretation.
 - ✓ These two commandments are the greatest because they are the summation of all ten.
 - ✓ Half of the 10 Commandments deal with deal with loving others: adultery, stealing, murder, coveting, honoring parents, and the other half deal with loving God.
 - ✓ This man is wanting to get into an argument about the micro details of these laws and Jesus backs Him up to macro applications.
 - ✓ This man knew the answer and states it with confidence because he believed he was keeping those laws.
 - ✓ Jesus hits his position on the head when He says, "Go do it!". "You're saving yourself, don't let me stop you!"
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2. No law greater

- ✓ The greatest commandment is above all the other laws of God.
 - ✓ Hell will be populated with those who break God's laws.
 - ✓ These are eternal laws which carry an eternal penalty because in breaking them you have rebelled against the Eternal One.
 - ✓ Who's going to be there? God gives us a short list: **Revelation 21:8**, but these are still not the greatest of sins.
 - ✓ Greatest sin must come as result of breaking the greatest command, right?
 - ✓ Surely, if anyone deserves Hell, it is the one who's broken the greatest commandment.
 - ✓ Have you broken this one? But you plan to go to heaven? change your plans!
 - ✓ This lawyer was self-righteous, he believes that he achieved righteousness for himself.
 - ✓ He was confident that he was going to heaven because he was confident that he was keeping those laws perfectly.
 - ✓ Jesus' response to him is based on this, it's not about social justice, it's not about going out of your way for people, it's about knowing that you can never do enough to save yourself.
 - ✓ **The entire parable is about demonstrating that we are not righteous.**
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3. This man thought he'd passed the test and was only questioning the definition of a neighbor.

- ✓ If asked the question, do you love God with all your heart soul mind and strength and your neighbor as yourself, what would be your answer?
 - ✓ If "Yes" is your answer, you just gave the wrong answer... Never, is the right answer.
 - ✓ "Never" is the right answer because it's what Jesus would say about you...
 - ✓ We condemn the priest and the Levite in this story, but when we condemn them, we condemn ourselves because we have all fallen the way they did at one time or another.
 - ✓ This is not about social justice and helping those in need near as much as it is about Jesus' response to the dilemma of **"How do I get this guy to realize he's lost?"**
 - ✓ You can't convince someone they need a savior until they are convinced they are a sinner.
 - ✓ **The entire point here is to convince the man of his sinfulness.**
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