

**The Heart of God: The Law and The Kingdom**  
Luke 10:25-37; Coast Community Church; Jackson Tran; 11-26-17

- **The Gospels**
  - The Gospel of Mark
    - Most dramatic
    - Gospel of the Suffering Son of God
  - The Gospel of Matthew
    - Most structured
    - Most Jewish
    - Frequent line: "He did so in order to fulfill what was said through the prophet..."
  - The Gospel of John
    - Most theological
    - About the divinity of Jesus and His unique role as the Son of God who reveals the Father
- **The Gospel of Luke**
  - Most thematic
  - It is the Gospel of a Savior of all people
  - Gentiles, Samaritans, women, children, and outcast
  - Examples:
    - Women
    - Story of Mary and Martha
  - It also is the only Gospel that talks about women who supported Jesus: "And also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and Joanna, the wife of Shuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many other who provided for them out of their means." (Luke 8:2-3)
  - Samaritans
    - The Samaritan leper
    - The Parable of the Good Samaritan
- **Background on Chapter 10**
  - Jesus had sent out the 70 into town (10:1-12)
  - The returned joyous (10:17-20)
    - "I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven."
  - Jesus goes on:
    - "turning to the disciples, He said privately, 'Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see, for I say to you, that many prophets and kings wished to see the things you see, and did not see them, and to hear the things which you hear and did not hear them.'" (10:23-24)
- **The Questions and Answers**
  - Lawyer's Question 1: What shall I do to inherit eternal life?
    - Jesus' Answers:
      - Question 2: What is written in the law?
        - Lawyer's answer: Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18
      - Question 3: How does it read to you?

- **The Lawyer**

- Seeking to justify himself in two possible scenarios:
  1. If Jesus knew the law, he would be forced (so the lawyer thinks) to declare who the lawyer's neighbor is
    - a. Jesus would tell him it is a Jew. Another Covenant member. Another person of Torah.
    - b. The lawyer could have believed he was fulfilling this. For example, Paul in Philippians 3 talks about putting no confidence in the flesh.
    - c. However he states: "although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh, I far more: circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless." (Philippians 3:4-6)
  2. If Jesus did not know the law, he would be forced to look like a fool and thereby vindicating the lawyer

- **The Questions and Answers**

- Lawyer's Question 1: What shall I do to inherit eternal life?
  - Jesus' Answers:
    - Question 2: What is written in the law?
      - Lawyer's answer: Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18
    - Question 3: How does it read to you?
      - Lawyer's Question 2: Who is my neighbor?
        - Jesus' Answer: The Parable of the Good Samaritan. Which of these three proved to be a neighbor?
          - The Lawyer's Answer: The one who showed mercy toward him

- **Differences**

- Normal reading: If you see someone who needs help, have mercy on them.
- Reading via Lukan context: There is no distinction of class, ethnicity or gender in God's Kingdom when it comes to who is included in it. All are called to fulfill the role of "neighbor" and love others
- Normal reading: Focuses on "doing good"
- Reading via Jesus's ministry and Kingdom: It is about laying down your life for others. It is about
  - Reading via Jesus's ministry and Kingdom: It is about laying down your life for others. It is about loving others resting on the heart of God
  - It is about reflecting God's heart in what we are doing. God's love is exemplified in Jesus' death to absorb our sins on the Cross
  - We must be a people who follow that love: "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters." (1 John 3:16)