

A LAWYER'S QUESTION

Luke 10:25-37

- V: 25** (A) This verse says plainly that this wasn't a question that the lawyer wanted to know the truth about, for he *tempted* JESUS with the question.
- (B) This is a studied and well rehearsed question.
- (C) He had pondered long and hard on how to trap this hopeful MESSIAH, this Jesus of Nazareth.
- V: 26** (A) Before JESUS stood a lawyer, with phylactery, (or a frontlet) on his forehead according to Deuteronomy 6:8.
- (B) In the pocket of the phylactery was a small piece of parchment which had written upon it the words of Deuteronomy 6:4-5 and Leviticus 19:18 per the custom of the Jews.
- (C) So JESUS answers his question with a question to see if the man had obeyed Deuteronomy 6:6 before he obeyed Deuteronomy 6:8?
- V: 27** (A) Some more rehearsed words from the lawyer! He said those words every time he put his phylactery on his forehead.
- (B) But what did the words and the symbolic phylactery mean to the man? Were the words in his heart?
- V 28** This man doesn't want a simple answer like that. He wants to argue!

- V 29** (A) He's trifling with JESUS – *to justify himself*.
- (B) His questions should have been: *How shall I act as a neighbor* or *How can I love my neighbor more, love him GOD'S way?*

V 30 *Jerusalem to Jericho* – 22 miles known as the *dangerous bloody way* – real bad country full of rocks and caves that were notorious for robbers and thieves.

- V 31** (A) *By chance* (from the Greek) *soong-kee-ree-ah*, which means by Divine purpose the controller is GOD, the LORD or MASTER.
- (B) So, by Divine purpose, came a certain priest.
- (C) The priest was on his way to Jerusalem to perform religious duties, to officiate in the temple over rituals.
- (D) The priest wasn't afraid he'd be dead and he couldn't help him. The priest was afraid he would be dead and he (the priest) would be ceremonially unclean for 7 days for having touched him. Leviticus 21:11, Numbers 6:6, 9:6 and 19:11.

(E) This is no excuse to refuse the Divine purpose.

(F) A priest of the Most High God should have a spontaneous response of love

to suffering. They were charged with the medicinal care of the people.

See Leviticus 14:33 ff as an example.

- V: 32**
- (A) The Levites were assistants to the priests.
 - (B) Now the Levite refuses GOD'S Divine purpose and passed by the chance to love his neighbor. Leviticus 19:1b.
- V: 33**
- (A) The plot is now thickening! There is only one class of hierarchy of the Jewish religion left – the doctors of the law! The lawyer could only be Thinking *I'm next!*
 - (B) But surprise! Instead of a lawyer, a Samaritan shows up. For the lawyer, this is like a slap across the face with a cold towel. *What? A half-breed Samaritan?* – must have been the lawyer's attitude.
 - (C) Samaritans were descended from Jews who had been left in the land when Assyria conquered Israel in 722 B.C. and these Jews had intermarried with the Assyrians. Thus, they were hated and abhorred as half-breeds.
 - (D) The Samaritans built a temple on Mt. Gerizim because they were not allowed in the Jerusalem temple to worship. An example is *the woman at the well*. John 4:19-20. The Israelis of Samaria had shown kindness and brotherly love to Judah before ... remember lawyer? Chronicles 28:1-15.
- V: 34-35**
- (A) Now I know you are a lawyer, but what would you have done?
 - (B) Would you have lived out what is on your forehead?
 - (C) *Went to him* – GOD'S love is spontaneous and unqualified. Deuteronomy

10:19.

(D) GOD'S love comes first to religious rules. Uncleaness had it' place in the order of things ... but unlove ... what place should it have?

V: 36 The roles are now reversed – the lawyer is now on the hot seat!

V: 37 Who is your *certain man*, who by *Divine purpose*, GOD wants you to
Love and show mercy?