

# LUKE 10 vs 25

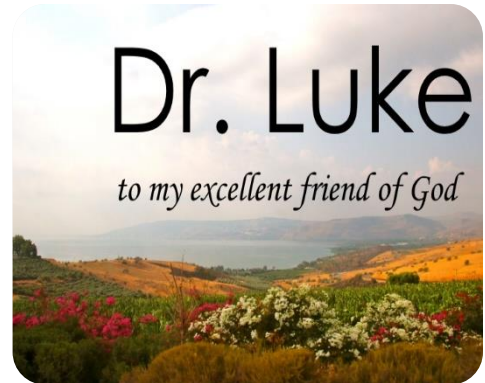
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In the first part of this chapter, Dr. Luke told us how Jesus sent an additional 70 men to advance the kingdom of God in His Name. And when they returned, they reported back what occurred; and Jesus was absolutely jubilant! It was the best news He had heard probably in an eternity; He had seen the start of Satan's fall, and it brought Jesus great joy.

Next Luke writes about a dumbass lawyer, who thought he was smarter than Jesus.

**25 And, pay attention, a certain lawyer stood up to test Jesus** / so definitely, there is a crowd, and Jesus is teaching; and this lawyer skilled in the Mosaic law wants to test Jesus; which happens every day in education; students trying to teach the teachers. This guy wasn't looking for information, he wanted to challenge. I hope Jesus can handle it!



Matthew Henry writes, this lawyer stood up to see if Christ had anything peculiar to prescribe; and by his question he would get it out of Him to expose Him. This is the kind of guy who is auditing the class. He's not really taking the course, because... he's already brilliant! And maybe a little resentful of the crowd gathering around Jesus; and he wants to make sure Jesus knows what He is talking about!

Matthew Henry says: And if there wasn't anything peculiar, then he could unmask His doctrine as needless... since it would give no other direction for obtaining happiness than what they already received. If there was no malice in his question... he was like the guy who wanted to Go, hear what the preacher was gonna talk about!

**a certain lawyer stood up, to test Jesus, saying, Master** / maybe: Einstein!

**Hey, Einstein! what will I do to inherit eternal life?** / remember: he wasn't looking for information.

**26 Jesus said to him, What is written in the law? how do you read it?** / notice, Jesus did not say to this guy: Before we talk, **Repeat after Me! I know that I'm a sinner...** *I know that I'm a sinner...* because Jesus would never talk like that. Right?! I mean, who cares that you and I are sinners? We will be to the day we die! What a surprise! I thought we are supposed to represent the Lord? So, get our eyes off ourselves and get them on our Savior! Drop the stupid traditions; and guard and keep His word.

**Jesus said to him, What is written in the law?** / so instead of sounding stupid, Jesus answers the guy's question with a question. That is how lawyers talk; and Jesus wasn't talking to a farmer... or to a fisherman; He was talking to a lawyer, and Jesus turns the tables on him; because Jesus the Messiah, will always work to make us to know ourselves, that we might know our need for Him!

**Jesus said, What is written in the law?** / How do you read it? What have you studied and learned?

**27 And he answering said,**

**You will love the Lord your God with all your heart / kardia;** Genesis first speaks of the heart... when God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually; and it grieved the LORD. The heart is where: thoughts accompanied by feelings intersect in the individual; thoughts both, good and bad, sometimes involuntary, often intrusive and unwanted; powerful feelings that attach to our thoughts... feelings: both, good and bad,

**and with all your soul / psuche;** Genesis 2 says, Adam became a living soul. In Ezekiel 18, the Lord says: All souls are mine! The soul is one of God's creative gifts to each person... so that we individually, freely without being coerced, have the ability to respond to Him. The soul is the executive; the arbiter of all our thoughts and mixed reasoning and images and feelings...making the executive decision: **yes**, or **no**!

**and with all your strength / ischys;** this word suggests... the ability to have, and to hold; Paul to the Ephesians says, it is the personal power of the LORD bestowed on His people,

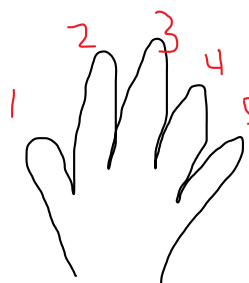
**and with all your mind / dianoia;** understanding, meditation, imagination; In Hebrews 8 the Lord says: in the latter days, I will put my law into their mind. Scholars err in dismissing the fact that this answer was from a guy in a crowd who gathered around Jesus; whoever he was, whether a follower or not, he knew the complexity of the individual; and his responsibility toward God. Many educators suggest looking close at these words is unimportant because they just mean\_\_\_ and then we hear some diluted summation.

In recent years, Dr. Dallas Willard, philosophy professor at USC, suggested differently saying, to think clearly in the church, is no different than clear thinking in school, or walking the streets of life; it is okay to learn how thinking works. Dr. Willard reminds us, Jesus was the greatest Thinker the world has known.

We should pay attention to these lessons... in order that we in the 21<sup>st</sup> century learn to think clearly, like many who followed Jesus when He walked among us... and He taught us and said if we continue in His word, then we are His disciples... His learners for life; and we will know the truth and be set free.

## You will love the Lord God

with all **your heart**, 1  
and with all **your soul**, 2  
and with all **your strength**, 3  
and with all **your mind**; 4  
and **your neighbor** as yourself. 5



Notice: The Good Teacher has given an assignment to His students: 5 easy things to remember. Notice the word: perfectly... is not part of the assignment. Not very complicated, is it?

<sup>28</sup> **Jesus said (...A+)**

**And He said to him, You have answered right: Do this, and you will live**

/ you will inherit eternal life. Question answered! But when Jesus said...Do this, and you will live suddenly this certain lawyer became aware that Christ intended to draw from him the fact that he had NOT done that. He had not loved the Lord God with every fiber of his being; he had not loved God... more than anything else, he had not loved his neighbor as himself. And that in his own strength, he could not do that -- certainly not perfectly!

**29 But he, willing to justify himself** / this one who ostensibly came in search of the answer to: What will I do to inherit eternal life? Having recognized his failure, and not wanting to pursue this question further, this guy wants to justify himself? He wants to explain why his performance is not up to par, but not bad? In other words, he wants to whitewash his failure... hoping to make his performance appear acceptable. So, he wants to bore the Lord with a litany of explanations... clarifications... reasons... and plain old excuses!

**he said to Jesus, And who is my neighbor?** / and now the drama starts. You know how lawyers talk: For the benefit of the party of the A... and the party of the B... could You define for us... the wide circle of... the near... beyond the family and relatives... of course?!

But again, without blinking... now the Teacher is taking charge of the class and here is the lesson

**30 Jesus answering, said, A certain person went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing** / they would do that first... so as not to bloody the garments they were going to steal,

**and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead** / so these good legalistic thugs... these barbaric criminals... they didn't murder him; they had a conscience. They were good thieves. They left him... half dead; which means, he is half alive! Don't be so negative; be positive!

**31 And by luck there came down that way a certain priest and when he saw him** / when this religious traditionalist leader loving his hocus pocus suddenly saw him:

**having seen him** / perhaps, just a glance? Then with his mind questioning; probably a little conflicted by ceremonial duty -- not to be negligent in his purity or, at least the inconvenience of defilement; because he would have had to touch him to find out if he was dead; and then, he would be defiled for at least a week. And he was clergy who had to get to work! And in his heart, he made an executive decision... and we know what he concluded,

**he passed by on the other side** / though quickly looking left and right, and I'm sure as he hurried away not even looking over his shoulder a second time; he told himself he will definitely put him on the prayer list along with the needy in Afghanistan... Indonesia... and outer Mongolia, of course!

**32 And likewise a Levite** / not a priest, but an upstanding religious teacher; a lover of the Book, ever learning, never coming to the knowledge of the truth of God and His Word -- a modern day evangelical regularly conjugating verbs... but never doing what the Lord repeatedly asked the night He was betrayed,

**when he came to the place, and looked** / **idon**, having seen...so it is the same word describing what everybody does every day... and all too frequently on the freeway during rush hour traffic.

This religious evangelical, spirit-filled, bible believing layman, having arrived at the same place, and having seen the same incident involving this half dead one who fell among thieves; he, too, weighed the images he saw... with his heartfelt intentions, and concluded,

**and he passed by on the other side also** / likely in a hurry, looking around to see if anyone was watching, probably rationalizing, talking to himself, excusing himself; it's better to not get involved; but certainly will pray for him, and maybe light a candle, too. AMEN! Gah-blēh-chə!

<sup>33</sup> **But a certain Samaritan / a what?** you know, by now many of the listeners in this crowd would expect Jesus to be ready to introduce an ordinary Israelite to the rescue. But what does Jesus say? Huh!

**a Samaritan, as he traveled, came to where he was, and when he saw him / idon;** a third person, for a third time... where the half dead man was; having seen what the other busy professionals had seen; and as this Samaritan... weighed the images pressing on his mind, and probably assessing the time of day, and the work commitments he made... and hurriedly putting the pieces of information together... because he, too... had to get to work, and looking around, saw nobody coming down the road and though he really intended to buy something nice for his wife and kids, what did he conclude?

**he had compassion on him** / **esplanchnisthē**... this word speaks to the emotional nature of Jesus looking on the multitudes; it is what the loving Father of a prodigal son felt as he ran to embrace his long-lost child; it just took a glance...and accompanying the executive decision was great emotion; and some might wonder, what does compassion really mean? Well, this decision was: **with passion**; but let's not interrupt the Teacher, because a good Teacher always makes things clear!

Jesus says...

<sup>34</sup> **And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and lifted him up onto his own animal** / and you know that means the Samaritan was going to walk; **that's compassion**,

**and brought him to an inn, and took care of him** / **epimeleomai**, epi indicating the direction of the mind toward the object cared for, **that's compassion**.

<sup>35</sup> **And on the next day as he was leaving** / in the morning, when he was ready to depart, because he also probably had to get to his work,

**he took out two denarii** / two-days wages, **and gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him,**

**Take care of him** / in other words the Samaritan said: mind him for me—**that's compassion**;

**and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you** / which for a stranger is a very kind thing; which is a picture of what the Messiah will do when He returns in glory and He comes with a reward for what all His people have done.

And Jesus looking this individual in the eye, asked...

<sup>36</sup> **Which of these three, do you think, was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?**

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<sup>37</sup> **And he said** / this lawyer who came to question Jesus, he answered,

**He who showed mercy on him.**

Then Jesus said to him: **Go, and you do the same.** / It was an imperative command.

Reception at the Bethany house of Mary, Martha and Lazarus,

<sup>38</sup> **Now it happened, as they went, that Jesus entered a certain village: and a woman named Martha received Him into her house.**

<sup>39</sup> **And she had a sister named Mary, who also sat at the feet of Jesus, and heard His message** / of love with your whole being for God, and as you love yourself love one another

**But Martha was burdened with all her preparations, and went to Him, and said, Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone?** / to do all the work preparing a delicious lunch just for you, and for us too? applying her finest culinary skills to prepare the best appetizer and entree, and other tasty things to nibble on, along with a good red wine or refreshing fruity beverage ad infinitum; before we get to the main course. And did she miss His NO! I do not care... and fantasize hearing a reply from Jesus? because we read...

**So tell her to help me.**

<sup>41</sup> **And Jesus answered and said to her, Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things:**

<sup>42</sup> **but really only one thing is necessary: and Mary has chosen the good part, that will not be taken from her.** / can you imagine? Mary in her effort to order what was most valuable in her life, chose to sit and listen, and we can be sure, interact with Jesus the Messiah, over any question His teaching might raise; as she heard Him speak the truths of God our Father in heaven.

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