



## THE GOOD SAMARITAN BIBLE STUDY SUPPLEMENT

**Luke 10:25-37** (ESV) <sup>25</sup> And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup> He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” <sup>27</sup> And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>28</sup> And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

<sup>29</sup> But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup> Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup> Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup> So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup> But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. <sup>34</sup> He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup> And the next day he took out two denarii[a] and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ <sup>36</sup> Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” <sup>37</sup> He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

The Good Samaritan is probably the most misunderstood parable of all time. In the ancient manuscripts, this parable is **one** paragraph starting at verse 25 and concluding at verse 37.

### How many paragraphs are contained in this section in your Bible translation?

New American Standard Bible (NASB)	1
King James Bible (KJV)	1
God’s Word Translation (GWT)	1
English Standard Version (ESV)	2
New King James Version (NKJV)	2
New International Version (NIV)	7
New Living Translation (NLT)	9

## What do you call the opening sentence of a paragraph?

The **Topic or Thesis Sentence** or Statement. It summarizes the main point of the paragraph or story.

*Luke 10:25 (ESV) "And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit **eternal life**?""*

**It is a parable about Eternal Life!**

**TIP:** Use the 5Ws and the H to brainstorm questions and guide your research as you study this passage. You can learn more about this Bible study method by downloading the accompanying PDF or visit <https://evidence4faith.org/portfolio/how-to-do-a-bible-study/> to see another demonstration.



Jesus answers the question with the following characters:

- The man
- The Priest
- The Levite
- The Samaritan
- The Robber
- The Innkeeper

## Who are the Samaritans?

When Solomon died and his son Rehoboam became the new king, a hothead named Jeroboam I rose up against the Davidic rule and began a civil war. The ten northern tribes sided with Jeroboam leaving the two southern tribes of Judah and Benjamin to side with Rehoboam.

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Jeroboam’s ten tribe nation became known simply as Israel or Ephraim. Later it would be called **Samaria** also after the city of Samaria was made the capital under King Omri.

Starting with Jeroboam I idol worship became the norm and continued to grow as time went on, in spite of God sending prophets to call the people back.

◀ A calf idol, Israel Museum, Photographed by E4F

▼ Tel Dan, a site of idol worship, Photographed by E4F







In 722 B.C., God had had enough. He allowed the Assyrians to conquer and destroy Samaria once and for all.

Anyone of importance or influence who was not killed was deported. This has resulted in what today we still call the **10 Lost Tribes** of Israel. Only the poor and unimportant people were allowed to stay.

The King of Assyria sent other foreign nations to the land of Samaria to **intermarry** with the remaining Israelites.

These Samaritans were now **half-breeds**, and they left the God of Abraham and Moses for idols that were brought into the land.

The Samaritans discarded all books of the Old Covenant except the Torah and they **melded** the worship of God with other **religions** and gods.

◀ Mural depicting the Assyrian conquest of Lachish using a battering ram, Israel Museum, Photographed by E4F

## The Man

- Represents Us
- Fallen Man
- Sinful in nature
- Unable to save ourselves

## The Robber

- Represents Satan who is out to destroy us.

## The Priest

- Represents the Law.
- Keeping the Commandments will not save us.
- The Commandments show us how far we are from God.

## The Levite

- Represent works
- Levites were the Temple workers.
- We cannot earn or work our way to eternal life.



## The Samaritan

- Represents Jesus
- He was “despised” Isaiah 53:3.
- He offered Grace.
- He took piety and showed love.
- He came down to the level of man.
- He brings man to the Father.
- He paid the price.
- He is coming again.

**The man could do nothing to save himself. Only the despised Samaritan, (Jesus), could help and save the man.**

## The Inn Keeper

- Represents the Father

**What are you doing to obtain fellowship with God? How do you expect to inherit eternal life?**

*Jesus Christ is **the only answer** to this problem of separation from God. He died on the cross and rose from the grave to pay the penalty for our sin—completely **bridging the gap** between God and us.*