

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

10:25–42

One day, a lawyer asked Jesus how he could have eternal life. Jesus asked him what the law said. The lawyer replied, **“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”** (Luke 10:27). Jesus said what the lawyer said was right. Then the lawyer asked, **“And who is my neighbor?”** (Luke 10:29). So Jesus told this parable:

A man was going from Jerusalem to Jericho. He was attacked by robbers who hurt him and left him on the side of the road. A priest saw him, but he did not stop to help. Then a Levite passed by, but he also did not help. Finally, a Samaritan man came and stopped to help the man. He cleaned the man’s wounds, took him to an inn, and paid for him to be taken care of.

Jesus asked the lawyer, **“Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?”** He said, ‘The one who showed mercy on him.’ And Jesus said to him, **‘Go and do likewise’** (Luke 10:36–37).



The Good Samaritan, Rembrandt

Now Jesus stayed at the house of Martha and her sister Mary. Mary sat at Jesus' feet and listened to him teach. But Martha was busy serving. Martha complained to Jesus that Mary should be helping her. **"But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her'" (Luke 10:41–42).**

Perseverance in Prayer

11:1–13

11 A disciple of Jesus asked him to teach them to pray. **"And he said to them, 'When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive every one who is indebted to us; and lead us not into temptation"'" (Luke 11:2–4).**

Then Jesus told them a parable about a man who kept knocking on his friend's door. Jesus said that the friend would open the door because of his perseverance. And Jesus said, **"For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened" (Luke 11:10).** Then Jesus asked them what father would give their child a serpent instead of a fish, or a scorpion instead of an egg. He said, **"If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:13).**

Jesus Criticizes the Pharisees and Lawyers

11:14–54

Now Jesus was casting out an evil spirit. Some people thought Jesus did this through power from the devil. Jesus asked them why the devil would cast out the devil. He said, **"If it is by the finger of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you" (Luke 11:20).** A woman in the crowd shouted that Jesus' mother was blessed. And Jesus replied that those who hear and keep the word of God are blessed.

The crowds around Jesus continued to grow larger. He said they came to seek a sign, but the only sign they would see was the sign of Jonah. Then Jesus said, **"Behold, something greater than Jonah is here" (Luke 11:32).** Jesus said that the eye is the body's lamp. He warned them to be careful, then, that their eyes were sound, so their bodies would

be filled with light and not darkness. Jesus criticized the Pharisees and the lawyers for acting important and putting heavy burdens on the people. As Jesus left, the scribes and Pharisees came to him. They asked questions about many things to try and catch him in his speech.

Do Not Be Anxious

12:1–34

12 Thousands of people came to hear Jesus teach. He told his disciples that nothing that was done or said would stay hidden. Then he said not to fear those who could destroy the body. Jesus said, **“Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows”** (Luke 12:6–7).

When a man came up to Jesus to talk about his inheritance, Jesus said to him, **“Take heed, and beware of all covetousness; for a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions”** (Luke 12:15). Then Jesus told them a parable about a rich man who built barns to store up all his grain and goods, so he could rest and be merry for many years. But when his time came, his soul was not prepared. Jesus said, **“So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God”** (Luke 12:21).

“And he said to his disciples, ‘Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat, nor about your body, what you shall put on. ... Consider the lilies, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin. ... But if God so clothes the grass which is alive in the field today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you’” (Luke 12:22, 27–28).

Jesus told them that the Father was happy to give them the kingdom. So they should give to others and build up their treasure in heaven. Jesus said, **“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”** (Luke 12:34).

The Necessity of Watchfulness

12:35–59

Jesus told them to always be watchful and ready for the coming of the Son of man.

Then Jesus told them a parable about servants set over their master’s household. The servant who did the master’s will and was ready for his

coming was blessed. But the servant who mistreated the master's other servants because he thought the master was late would be surprised by the master's coming and be severely punished.

Then Jesus said that he came to set the earth on fire and to cause division. He asked them why they knew how to explain the weather but not the present time. He told them to judge for themselves what was right and to try to make peace with others before going to the judge.

Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman

13:1–21

13 Jesus asked those present, Do you think that those who suffer are worse sinners than those who do not? Then he said, **“No; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:5).**

Then Jesus told them a parable about a man with a fig tree that was not producing fruit. The man told the vinedresser to cut the tree down because it had not produced fruit in three years. But the vinedresser told the man to let him care for it another year. If it still did not bear fruit, then it could be cut down.

On the sabbath, Jesus saw a woman who had been hunched over for eighteen years. **“He called her and said to her, ‘Woman, you are freed from your infirmity.’ And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God” (Luke 13:12–13).** The ruler of the synagogue was angry at Jesus for healing on the sabbath. But Jesus said that if it was good to give water to an ox or donkey on the sabbath, then surely a daughter of Abraham should be healed on the sabbath.

Jesus went on to explain what the kingdom of God was like. He said it was like a tiny mustard seed that grew so large that birds could nest in it. He also said the kingdom of God was like yeast put in dough to rise.

The Lament over Jerusalem

13:22–35

“He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem” (Luke 13:22). Someone asked Jesus if only a few people would be saved. Jesus said the door to the kingdom was narrow. Not everyone who thought they should be let in would be saved. At that hour, some warned Jesus that Herod wanted to kill

him. Jesus told them that, still, he must go on his way. And Jesus said, **“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! ... And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”** (Luke 13:34–35).

Humility and Hospitality

14:1–14

14 One sabbath while he was eating at the house of a Pharisee, Jesus healed a sick man. The Pharisees were watching him, so Jesus asked them if it was lawful to heal on the sabbath. When they did not answer, he said, **“Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well, will not immediately pull him out on a sabbath day?”** (Luke 14:5). Still, they had no answer.

Then Jesus taught them that it was better to sit in a lower place at the table than to choose the seat of honor, so that the host may raise them to a higher seat. And Jesus told them that when they hosted a dinner, they should invite those who could not repay them, and then they would be blessed.

The Cost of Discipleship

14:15–35

Jesus told a parable: He said, **“A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many”** (Luke 14:16). But those who were invited made excuses for why they couldn’t go. So the man told his servant to go out in the streets and bring in the poor, suffering, blind, and lame. There was still more room at the banquet, so the servant went out to the highway and invited everyone he met to attend. The man said the ones he first invited would not taste his banquet.

A large crowd was following Jesus. He said to them, **“Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple”** (Luke 14:27). Jesus continued by asking them what man who is building a tower does not first sit down to count the total cost. In the same way, he asked them what king going to war would not first determine how many soldiers he needed. So his disciples must be willing to give up all that they have to be his disciples. Jesus said, **“He who has ears to hear, let him hear”** (Luke 14:35).

The Parable of the Prodigal Son

15:1-32

15 The Pharisees and scribes did not like that Jesus spoke to tax collectors and sinners. So Jesus told them a parable.

He told them about a shepherd who had one hundred sheep. One sheep was lost, so he left the ninety-nine to look for the lost sheep.

Jesus said, **“And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost’”** (Luke 15:5-6). Then he told them a parable about a lost coin that its owner was so happy to find after a long search. Jesus said, **“Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents”** (Luke 15:10).

Then Jesus told a parable about a man who had two sons. The younger son took his inheritance and moved away from home. He wasted all his money and had nothing for food. So he decided to go home to his father and tell his father that he had sinned and was no



The Return of the Prodigal Son, James Tissot