The Good Samaritan
Luke 10:30-37

Introduction:
A. Three questions leading up the parable.
   1. The lawyer's test question. (v. 25; cf. Tempting Mt 19:3)
   3. The lawyer's self-justifying question. (v. 29).
B. Three people who saw needy man on the Jericho road.
   1. A priest - a religious leader.
   2. A Levite - a member of a chosen tribe within Israel.
   3. A certain Samaritan - a lowly character in Jewish eyes.
C. Three ways the good Samaritan opened up toward the robbery victim:

Discussion:
I. He Opened His Heart. ("he had compassion" - v. 33).
   A. This set him apart from Priest and Levite.
      1. All three saw him.
      2. Other two had other places to go and things to do.
   B. Religious and social elite often lack heart -- should not be.
      1. Ephesus was doctrinally strong - lacked heart. (Rev. 2:1-5).
      2. Many doctrinally strong Christians - have hearts of ice.
      3. Many fail in judgement not for "error" but did no compassion. (Matt. 25)
   C. Those who receive most mercy often have least to give. (Cf. Matt. 18:23-35)
      1. Often can think hundreds of reasons why victim does not "deserve it".
      2. Passage not talking about merit but mercy.
II. He opened his Hands (v. 34).
   A. Priest and Levite may have been like a lot or religious people today.
      1. Possibly prayed for folks like victim in their many prayers.
      2. Possibly thought what they did through temple treasury enough.
   B. Good Samaritan not only "cared for him", he "took care of him".
      1. Personal service in "visiting". (Jas. 1:27)
      2. Personal service needed as well as words of love. (1 John 3:18).
III. He opened his Pocketbook. (v. 35)
   A. One reason for Christians' working is to have to give. (Eph. 4:28).
   B. One reason Christians' do not give, they have not given self. (2 Cor. 8:5).
   C. One must give into treasury and individually for poor and preaching.
      1. Preaching: treasury (Phil. 4); individually (Gal. 6:6).
      2. Poor: treasury (1 Cor. 16:2); individually. (Jas. 2:16 "one of you").
      3. Brethren often stingy with personal and collective funds.
   D. One cannot boast of his faith while closing his pocket book. (Jas. 2:14-16).
   E. One cannot give when all is consumed on own pleasures. (cf. Jas. 4:3).

Conclusion:
A. Jesus said, "Go and do likewise".
B. Many do likewise - like priest and Levite.
C. Others do like Samaritan, how about you.