

Luke 10:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

Analysis

The Samaritan's actions demonstrate costly love: 'And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him' (καὶ προσελθὼν κατέδησεν τὰ τραύματα αὐτοῦ ἐπιχέων ἔλαιον καὶ οἶνον, ἐπιβιάσας δὲ αὐτὸν ἐπὰ τὸ ἴδιον κτῆνος ἤγαγεν αὐτὸν εἰς πανδοχεῖον καὶ ἐπεμελήθη αὐτοῦ). Each action involves personal sacrifice: oil and wine for wounds (expensive commodities), his own animal (walking while the victim rides), time and effort at the inn. The verb 'epimeleomai' (ἐπεμελήθη, took care) indicates careful, ongoing attention. This models gospel ministry—meeting physical needs, personal involvement, costly sacrifice.

Historical Context

First-century medical practice used oil (soothing) and wine (antiseptic due to alcohol content) for wound treatment. Inns (πανδοχεῖον, pandocheion, literally 'all-receiving place') along major roads provided lodging for travelers, though they had unsavory reputations. The Samaritan's willingness to personally escort the victim and pay expenses (v.35) demonstrates extraordinary generosity in a culture where such kindness to strangers (especially ethnic enemies) was virtually unknown. The two denarii he paid (v.35) represented two days' wages—significant expense.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does the Samaritan's costly, personal involvement challenge superficial or distant forms of charity?
2. In what ways does this parable illustrate gospel truths about Christ's saving work and Christian responsibility?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	προσελθὼν	κατέδησεν	τὰ	τραύματα	αὐτοῦ		
And	went	to him and bound up	G3588	wounds	him		
G2532	G4334	G2611		G5134	G846		
ἐπιχέων	ἔλαιον	καὶ	οἶνον	ἐπιβιβάσας	δὲ	αὐτοῦ	ἐπὶ
pouring in	oil	And	wine	set	and	him	on
G2022	G1637	G2532	G3631	G1913	G1161	G846	G1909
τὸ	ἴδιον	κτῆνος	ἤγαγεν	αὐτοῦ	εἰς	πανδοχεῖον	καὶ
G3588	his own	beast	and brought	him	to	an inn	And
	G2398	G2934	G71	G846	G1519	G3829	G2532
ἐπεμελήθη	αὐτοῦ						
took care	him						
G1959	G846						

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 147:3 (Parallel theme): He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

Romans 12:20 (Parallel theme): Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head.

1 Thessalonians 5:15 (Parallel theme): See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

Mark 14:8 (Parallel theme): She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.

Exodus 4:24 (Parallel theme): And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the LORD met him, and sought to kill him.

Genesis 42:27 (Parallel theme): And as one of them opened his sack to give his ass provender in the inn, he espied his money; for, behold, it was in his sack's mouth.

Luke 2:7 (Parallel theme): And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.