The Levite and the Priest By Chaplain Paul 193 & ChatGPT – February 2025

The modern-day Levite and the Priest walk among us each day, Turning their heads, too busy to stop, too hurried to pray. With schedules full and eyes cast down, they pass the broken by, Oblivious to the silent tears of those who sit and cry.

O Levite! O Priest! Where has your compassion gone? The ones you ignore are Christ in flesh—forsaken, suffering, alone. The hungry, the hurting, the lost in despair, Yet you walk on past, as if they weren't there.

O Priest! O Levite! Too busy to give a damn, Always rushing, always running, stuck in life's traffic jam. Your hands hold the scrolls, your lips recite the prayers, Yet your feet won't carry you where love truly dares.

Take a lesson from the Good Sam, Who stops, who serves, who lends a hand. For he places *Service Above Self*, Giving of himself so others are fed, Binding the wounds of the left-for-dead.

The road to Jericho stretches still, Lined with souls in need of goodwill. O Levite! O Priest! It's not too late— Turn back, stoop down, show love, lift weight.

For the measure of a faithful man Is not his title, nor his plan, But the heart that sees, the hands that give, The love that helps the broken live.

Amen.

The Parable of the Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37

²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Yeshua. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶ "What is written in the Law?" He replied. "How do you read it?"

²⁷ He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'^[a]; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'^[b]"

²⁸ "You have answered correctly," Yeshua replied. "Do this and you will live."

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Yeshua, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰ In reply Yeshua said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii^[e] and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

³⁶ "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

³⁷ The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Yeshua told him, "Go and do likewise." John 14:27



John 15:5-17 ⁵ "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples.

⁹ "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are My friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵ I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from My Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in My name the Father will give you. ¹⁷ This is My command: Love each other.