



THE UNNECESSARY  
PARABLE



## Luke 10:25–27

And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?” So he answered and said, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,’ and ‘your neighbor as yourself.’”





# Deuteronomy 6:5

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul, and with all your strength.





# Leviticus 19:18

You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.





The lawyer's answer was not just a good answer, it was the best possible answer.  
In fact, **it was Jesus' own answer!**





## Matthew 22:34–36

But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?”





## Matthew 22:37–40

Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”





# Luke 10:28

And He said to him, **“You have answered rightly; do this and you will live.”**





# Luke 10:28

And He said to him, “You have answered rightly;  
**do this and you will live.”**





# Luke 10:29

But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus,  
“And who is my neighbor?”





The lawyer knew the correct answer on paper,  
but he had not put the teaching into practice.





# Luke 10:29

But he, **wanting to justify himself**, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”





The story of the Good Samaritan was told to someone who already knew the moral. For that lawyer, it was an unnecessary parable.





## Luke 10:36–37

So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?”  
And he said, “He who showed mercy on him.”  
Then Jesus said to him, **“Go and do likewise.”**





That encounter with the lawyer was not the first time Jesus had encountered an apparent lack of knowledge from someone whose job it was to know the law of God.





## John 3:1–3

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”





# John 3:4

Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”





## John 3:5–7

Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”





# John 3:9, 10

Nicodemus answered and said to Him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered and said to him, “**Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things?**”





How could otherwise brilliant men—scholars in the Scriptures, even—miss such basic spiritual concepts?





## John 3:19, 20

And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and **men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.** For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, **lest his deeds should be exposed.**





Much of the confusion people have about spiritual things isn't because the truth is hard to understand, but because the truth is hard to apply.





According to Bible prophecy, this willful ignorance of Bible truth will be a marked sign of the last days.





## 2 Peter 3:3–7

... scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.”





## 2 Peter 3:3–7

For this **they willfully forget**: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water. But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.





## 2 Timothy 3:1–7

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, **having a form of godliness but denying its power.** And from such people turn away!





## 2 Timothy 3:1–7

For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, **always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.**





## 2 Timothy 4:1–4

Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when **they will not endure sound doctrine**, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and **they will turn their ears away from the truth**, and be turned aside to fables.





The problem for most people isn't a lack of  
being **convinced of the truth**— it's the  
challenge of being **convicted by the truth**.





# Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.





When men and women are presented with the truth of God's Word, the Holy Spirit **convinces the mind**, convicts the heart, and—if received—converts the soul.





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## Acts 2:36–38

“Therefore let all the house of Israel **know assuredly** that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” **Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart**, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, **what shall we do?**” Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”





## Acts 2:42–47

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them... So continuing daily **with one accord** in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.





The same truth that binds genuine followers of Christ together binds the enemies of Christ together as well.





## Acts 7:51, 52

“You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers





## Acts 7:51, 52

When they heard these things **they were cut to the heart**, and they **gnashed at him with their teeth**. But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, “Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him **with one accord**.





The work of the Holy Spirit is to take the truth of God's Word and, like a sharp sword, apply it to your life in such a way that you are "cut to the heart"—convicted.





But **conviction alone will not save you.**  
Your response to the prompting of the Holy Spirit determines whether you're converted.





It is my prayer that the Word of God will:





It is my prayer that the Word of God will:  
**convince our minds**





It is my prayer that the Word of God will:  
convince our minds  
**convict our hearts**





It is my prayer that the Word of God will:  
convince our minds  
convict our hearts  
**convert our souls**





**RESISTOR 2016**  
**RESTORATION**





KNOW YOUR  
**ENEMY**