

Revealed – February 7, 2021

1. Introduction: Our text for today is found in Luke 10:24-37. We'll see that God's word may be misunderstood or missed in its entirety unless it is "revealed" by God.

a. The context for Luke 10:24-37 is found in the prayer spoken by Jesus and recorded in Luke 10:21-22, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and **revealed** them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²² All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and **no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.**"

b. Question: Do you know who the Father is?" Do you know who the Son is? Of course you do! But how did you come to this knowledge according to Luke 10:22?

c. It is possible to know about God without knowing God in a meaningful life-changing sense. Recall the exchange recorded in Luke 8:28 where the possessed man was caused by the demons to say, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God?" The demon had knowledge of but did not know Jesus.

d. Question: What is the difference between having knowledge of and knowing Jesus?

e. Question: What is the medium through which God has revealed himself to you?

f. Question: Consider the account of Philip and the Ethiopian Treasurer recorded in Acts 8:30-35 where God sent Philip to the location of the Ethiopian Treasurer who was reading but not understanding the book of Isaiah. "Philip asks him, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' ³¹ And he said, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' ... ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus." In this case God used a man, Philip, to reveal His word. Has God used someone in your life to reveal His word to you?

2. Read: Luke 10:23-24, "Then turning to the disciples he said privately, 'Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.'"

a. Question: The people of God, including prophets and kings, had prayed to see and hear the Messiah personally for millennia. Why do you think God waited until the time of Jesus to fully reveal His Son?

b. Question: What explanation for God's delay is revealed in Peter 3:8-9? "But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count

slowness, but is patient toward you, **not wishing that any should perish**, but that all should reach repentance.”

c. Another time of waiting was shown to John and recorded in Revelation 6:9-11, “When he [Jesus] opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne.¹⁰ They cried out with a loud voice, ‘O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, **how long** before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?’¹¹ Then they were each given a white robe and **told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete**, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.”

3. **Read:** Luke 10:25-28, “And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, ‘Teacher, **what shall I do** to inherit eternal life?’²⁶ He said to him, ‘What is written in the Law? How do you read it?’²⁷ And he answered, ‘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.’²⁸ And he said to him, ‘You have answered correctly; **do this, and you will live.**’”

a. Question: What is the subtle error in the lawyer’s question?

b. Question: Can a person really fulfill the requirement to “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?”

c. Question: Since we can’t meet the requirements of the Law, that include loving 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, what must we trust for our salvation?

4. **Read:** Luke 10:29-37 But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead.³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side.³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.³³ But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion.³⁴ He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him.³⁵ And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?”³⁷ He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

a. Question: Let’s cut to the chase as they say. Who is your neighbor?

b. Question: How has the definition of a neighbor changed in your lifetime?