The Temptation of Jesus

Luke 10:25-37

Intro. A. This is one of the most popular parables in the Bible or anywhere else.
1. The parable of the Prodigal Son is #2.
2. They both seem to teach an important lesson on forgiveness, love, helping others, etc.

B. The context reveals the true purpose of this parable, the real reason Jesus spoke it.
1. It puts to silence a self-righteous Jew.
2. He believed he was saved by keeping the great commandment.
3. Jesus revealed the man's error.

V. The Temptation of Jesus...

A. This temptation is by a lawyer, not Satan.
Vs. 25 1. "Tempted" = πεπάθη = "to make trial of" "to thoroughly trust", + "ek" = totally, completely.
Here, the intent is evil, He meant to embarrass Jesus.
2. "Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"
3. "As a lawyer he was well taught in Mosaic law.
4. "Inherit" = "to receive a share of an inheritance."

B. The Response of Jesus.
Vs. 26 1. "What is written in the law"?
2. "...how readest thou"?
3. Jesus asks him a question, a good way to answer those who want to start a religious quarrel.

C. The answer of the lawyer.
Vs. 27 1. The answer involves love.
2. The object is "the Lord thy God".
III. The Summation And Conclusion.

A. The Unexpected Question.
\[\text{Vs. 36} \]
1. "Which now of these three..."  
2. There could be but one answer.

B. The confession of a lawyer.
\[\text{Vs. 37a} \]
1. "He that showed mercy on him".  
2. "Mercy" = ελεος = "the desire to help the miserable"; "active compassion"; "help as distinguished from mere pity".  
3. The temple prayer.

C. What the lawyer must do.
\[\text{Vs. 37b} \]
1. Go and do thou likewise.  
2. Mercy is doing, this man understood.

IV. What Should These Vesses Teach Vs.?

A. That Knowing scripture by memory is not the end of any spiritual issue.
\[\text{1. The lawyer knew the scripture.} \]
\[\text{2. He did not understand it.} \]
\[\text{3. He misinterpreted a word, "neighbor".} \]

B. That Knowing is not sufficient.
\[\text{1. Knowing is absolutely necessary.} \]
\[\text{2. It is not enough, we must, "do it".} \]

C. That Responding to those who are outside of our comfort zone may fulfill a Christian obligation.
\[\text{1. This Samaritan was traveling alone.} \]
\[\text{2. He did not endanger his family.} \]
(over)