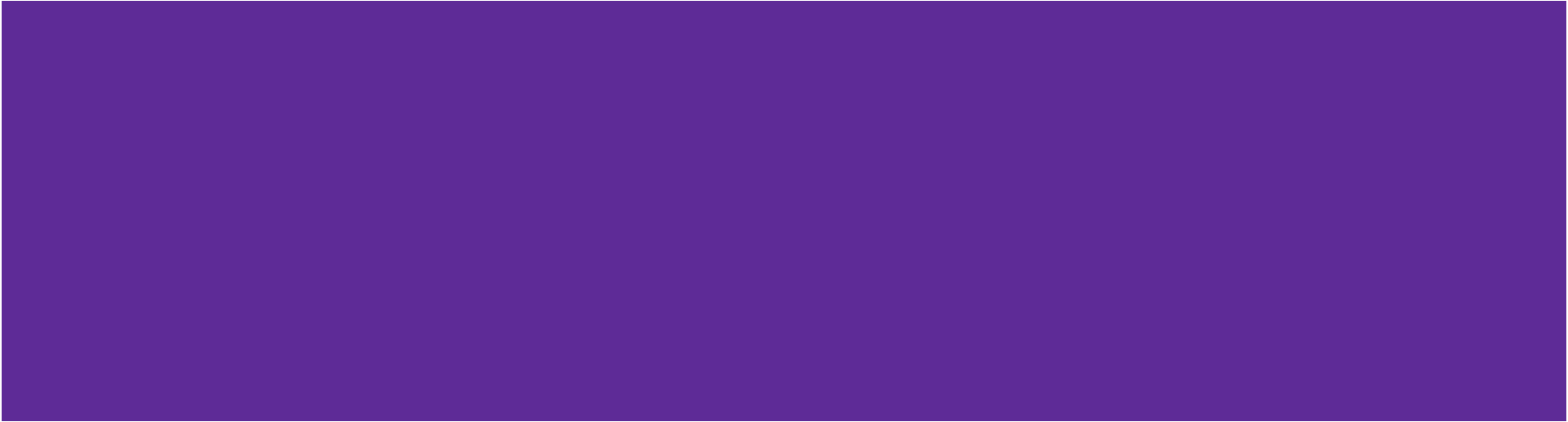


The good 'Samaritan'

Piers

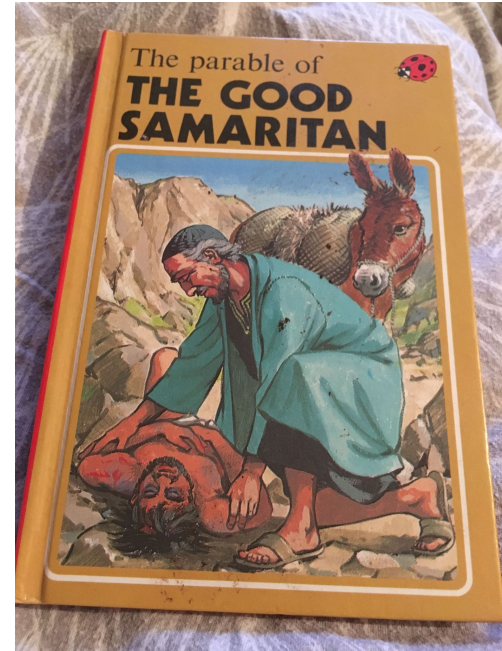


The story - Luke 10:25-37

30 Jesus 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[¢] 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.'

Questions to ponder

- Is the Bible a 'manual for life', such as this example?
- When did you first hear the story, 'The good Samaritan'?
- Did you interpret ,or, understand the story?
- Who was the Samaritan?
- What is a 'Samaritan'?
- How literal is the story?
- What does it mean?



Thoughts

Who is the Samaritan?

a native or inhabitant of Samaria. 2 [from the parable of the good Samaritan in Luke 10:30–37] : a person who is generous in helping those in distress.

Samaria refers to both a city and a territory. Also Known As: Palestine. Hebrew Name: Samaria in Hebrew is Shomron, **meaning “watch-mountain,” or “watch-tower.”**

Some say the Samaritan is Jesus.

Here's what I think...

Where is this?



A clue



A story...



My interpretation

I remember the story from school.

I think, the Samaritan, was a Samaritan.

I interpret the story... literally.

The Gospel of Matthew records Jesus saying:

Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

What's your interpretation?

Notes

My thinking was... the building in the first picture is CS House in Slough, where I used to work. The second is Slough Railway station opposite.

Some years ago, and I was reminded about this when reading Luke, in the Bible, the following took place.

Early one work morning I looked out of the window in CS House and spotted what looked like an old man lying on the pavement near the station. Commuters in their finery simply walked past, ignoring him. It shocked me that, despite his dishevelled state, others were simply ignoring him.

I spoke to the building Security Guard and we checked on the man and called an ambulance. It transpired that... the man was not drunk, destitute or in any way of less worth than anyone else, he was simply ill and was taken into hospital.

In no way do I claim to be a good samaritan but I did feel that something was not right and acted upon it. Love thy neighbour, as the Bible says.

Piers.