

The Good Samaritan Interpretations Throughout History

	Irenaeus	Origen	Augustine	Cyril	Bede	Thomas	Luther	Calvin	Henry	Gill	Spurgeon
The Man	Mankind	Adam	Adam/Mankind		Adam	Sinners	Adam/Mankind		Mankind	Mankind	Wounded Man : Mankind
Jerusalem	–	Paradise	The Heavenly City	–	The Heavenly City	Heavenly Jerusalem	–	–	–	Edenic Life	–
Jericho	–	The World	The Mortal World	–	The Mortal World	The Fallen World	–	–	–	Fallen World	–
Robbers	–	Hostile Powers	Satan/Demons	–	Satan/Demons	Evil spirits	Devils	–	Satan	Sin and Satan	Robbers : Our own hand
Wounds	Sinful habits	Sin/Vice	Sin	Sin and hypocrisy	Sins	Sins	Sin revealed by Law	–	Sin	Defacement of the Image of God	Wounds : Sin
Half-Dead	–	Potential for Redemption	Spiritual death despite some natural knowledge of God.	–	Loss of blessedness (spiritual death) but maintenance of reason	–	Uselessness of Reason/Free Will	–	Half-Dead = Twice Death in Original Sin and Transgression	Curse of death – natural (body, not soul), spiritual (soul, not body), and eternal (under it, but never annihilated), but in this life still recoverable by the grace of God.	Half-Dead : Total spiritual death
Priest	–	Law	Old Testament	–	The Law	–	Primordial Patriarchs	–	Mosaic Law	The Moral Law	–
Levite	–	Prophets	Old Testament	–	The Law	–	The Priesthood of Mosaic Covenant	–	Mosaic Law	The Ceremonial Law	–
Samaritan	Christ	Christ	Christ	One who fulfilled Law of Love	Christ	Christ	Christ	–	Christ	Christ	Samaritan : Christ
Binding of Wounds	Healing work of Christ within a broad recapitulation framework	Healing Work of Christ	Healing from sin	–	Hope of forgiveness for the repentant	Sacraments	Healing work of Christ	–	Healing Work of Christ	Healing work of Christ through incarnation grounded in eternal covenant of redemption	Temporary Healing : Healing Work of Christ
Oil	–	Medicinal - Reduces Swelling	Hope	–	For the Kingdom of God is at hand	Infusion of Spirit's grace	Gospel	–	Blood of Christ	Grace of the Holy Spirit.	Oil & Wine : Blood of Christ
Wine	–	Medicinal - Stings	Exhortation to fervency	–	Every tree that does not bear fruit will be cut down	Christ's Passion (?)	Law/Cross	–	Blood of Christ	Doctrines of the Gospel: free justification and pardon through his blood	Oil & Wine : Blood of Christ
Animal/Beast	–	Body of Christ	Body of Christ	–	Christ's Body	Christ's Body	Body of Christ	–	–	Either the Red Horse of Christ's humanity (Zech 1:8) or the White Horse of the Gospel (Rev. 6:2)	Samaritan walking by his Mule : Christ's walking in our humble estate
Inn	–	Church	Church	–	The Church	–	Church	–	–	Church	Temporary care : Christ's continual care
Innkeeper	–	Angel (Pastor?)	Apostle	–	Apostles	–	Preachers of the Word	–	–	Ministers of the Gospel	Temporary care : Christ's continual care
Two Denarii	Restoration of image of the Father and the Son via the reception of the Spirit	Knowledge of the Father and the Son	Double Love or Promise of present and future life	–	The Two Testaments/The wages for the gospel laborer	–	Faith and love or Law and Gospel	–	Atoning Work through condscension	Old and New Testament or Baptism & Lord's Supper or the graces and gifts of the Spirit	Two Denarii : Christ's own life
Promise to Return	–	Second Coming of Christ	–		Second Coming	–	–	–	–	Second Coming of Christ	Return : Christ's Second Coming
Moral Sense Emphasized	–	Yes	–	Yes	Yes	Yes	Within his Law/Gospel Framework	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Conscious Rejection of Allegorical Sense	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes; Opted for analogy instead

Key:

- Agreement
- Agreement, but with differing frameworks
- Disagreement

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