

## Who is My Neighbor?

by John Walsh

*The priest and Levite meet while getting coffee in the lobby of motel (inn) where they are staying the night. They start talking. [The motel attendant is on the other side of the stage.]*

**Priest:** Are you on your way to Jericho or Jerusalem?

**Levite:** Oh, I just came down from Jerusalem – on my way to Jericho. I have an important conference there tomorrow. A good night sleep and a good breakfast and I will be ready for it.

**Priest:** Yeah, I came from Jerusalem my self. Say, did you see that man on the side of the road?”

**Levite:** Oh yeah, wasn't that awful? The roads just aren't safe these days. There was a day when you didn't have to worry about things like that.

**Priest:** I wanted to help the man, but I have to oversee worship in Jericho. If I touched him, I would be unclean for seven days. Worshipping God is more important then helping some poor sap along the road.

**Levite:** Well, you're right there. Besides, I personally think it was a trap. That man was just bait. As soon as you stop and start helping him, the others jump out and get you. I'm not falling for that one.

*At this point the Samaritan comes in on the other side of the stage.  
The priest and Levite start saying degrading things about him.*

**Priest:** Oh look. It's one of "them." Surely he isn't going to stay here. If so, I would have to leave. It would make me unclean and I could lead worship tomorrow.

**Levite:** Where is justice in this world. He should have been left to die along the side of the road, not that Jewish man.

**Priest:** I bet he is the one who beat up that man and robbed him.

**Inn keeper:** (speaks to the Samaritan): "I'm sorry. We don't allow your kind to stay in this inn.

**Samaritan:** "Well don't worry about that. I'm not staying the night."

*sigh of relief from the priest and Levite*

**Samaritan:** I have a man outside on my donkey who needs a place to stay and medical care. Don't worry, he is Jewish. I have put enough money in this bag to pay for his care. I'll come back this way in a few days to check on him. If need be, I'll pay you more if the expenses are greater than this amount.

**Inn keeper:** Is this man a friend of yours?

**Samaritan:** No, I don't know him. I found him on the side of the road.

**Samaritan** starts to walk out, stops, turns, and says:

You might say ... He is my neighbor.

