

*Good Samaritan*, by Jacopo Bassano (1510–1592)

Art selection and commentary by [Heidi J. Hornik](#) and [Mikeal C. Parsons](#)

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The parable of the good Samaritan, here depicted by the Italian mannerist painter Jacopo Bassano, illustrates generosity and one person's support for another, devoid of prejudice. In the context of Catholic Venice in the 16th century, Bassano's work takes the church to task for failing in its obligations to care for the sick and needy.