Luke 15

Praveen Golla

Luke 15

- **The Parable of the Lost Sheep**
- 1Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. 2And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, “This Man receives sinners and eats with them.” 3So He spoke this parable to them, saying:
- 4“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? 5And when he has found *it,* he lays *it* on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6And when he comes home, he calls together *his* friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’ 7I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

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- **The Parable of the Lost Coin**
- 8“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds *it?* 9And when she has found *it,* she calls *her* friends and neighbors together, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!’ 10Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Luke 15

The Parable of the Lost Son

11Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. 12And the younger of them said to *his* father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls *to me*.’ So he divided to them *his* livelihood. 13And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. 14But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. 15Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him *anything*.

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17“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, 19and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.” ’

20“And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. 21And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

22“But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet. 23And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it,* and let us eat and be merry; 24for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.

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25“Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. 26So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. 27And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’

28“But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. 29So he answered and said to *his* father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. 30But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’

31“And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. 32It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’ ”

Overview

- v.3 : One Parable – 3 Stories
- v.4-6 : The Lost Sheep (1%)
- v. 7 : Conclusion
- v. 8-9 : The Lost Coin (10%)
- v. 10 : Conclusion
- v. 11-31 : The Lost Son (50%)
- v. 24 : Conclusion of the younger Son
- No Conclusion on the Older Son

The Third Story Builds up on the First two

- The Sheep is Lost in the Wilderness – A Far Country
- The Coin is Lost in the House – Inside the House
- The Third Story shows us two sons that are Lost – One in a far Country and Another inside the House

Problem

Not the Broken Law or the Lost Money, But the Broken Relationship

Son's Plan

- Escape Kezazah – Jewish Ritual
- Find Employement
- Feed himself and Pay his Debt
- Son Comes (Text doesn't say Returns)

Father's Love

- Knows his son will fail
- Protect him from the Villagers
- Demonstrate his Love
- Restore the Lost Son to Sonship (Robe, Ring, Sandals)

God’s Love Precedes Repentance

- Father Ran to Him and Met him outside the Village
- Father Embraced him
- Father Kissed Him

And Then

The Son understood the Love of his Father – Notice he doesn’t ask to be a servant anymore(v.21), He Repents.

1 Parable – 3 Stories – 1 Message

- The Lost Sheep – Was Found by the Sheppard (Jesus) v.5
- The Lost Coin – Was Found by the Woman (Jesus) v.9
- The Lost Son - Was Found by the Father (Jesus) v.24

Tales of Restoration

- The Sheep Lost – is Found – is Restored
- The Lost Coin – is Found – is Restored
- The Lost Son – is Found – is Restored.

A Son is Lost - There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So *he divided his property* between them.

Goods Wasted in Expensive Living - 13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a far country and there *squandered his wealth in wild living*.

Everything Lost 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in *want*.

The Great Sin(Feeding Pigs for Gentiles) 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to *feed pigs*.

Total Rejection 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, *but no one gave him anything*.

A change of Mind 17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here *I am starving* to death!



A Son is Found 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.



Goods Used in Joyful celebration 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was l



Everything Gained, Restored to Sonship 22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.



The Great Repentance 21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I *am no longer worthy* to be called your son.'



Total Acceptance 20 So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; *he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.*



An Initial Repentance 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like *one of your hired servants.'*

Jesus Response to the Pharisees v.2

Not only I Sit and Eats with Sinners:

- I run to them
- I embrace them
- I lavish them with kisses
- And Invite them to sit and eat with me

But What about The Pharisees and Scribes ?

Who are the Pharisees and Scribes in the Three Stories ?

- The Lost Sheep ? The Shepard ? The Angels in Heaven v.7
- The Lost Coin ? The Woman ? The Angels of God v.10
- The Lost Younger Son ? The father ? The Servant ?

The Pharisees and Scribes are the Older Brother/ Older Son

The Lost Older Son

- As much Lost as his younger brother
- Younger Son was lost in the far country – Older son is lost in the House
- The Younger Son was Rejected but was Restored
- The Older Son appeared to be Saved but He is outside his father's house
- The Younger Son was a Sinner that was Forgiven by the Father
- The Older Son depended on self-righteous works instead of his Father

His Relationship was Transactional

v.29 – Lo, these many years I ***served you*** (Not Loved, Not Enjoyed)

- He doesn't talk like a Son – He complains like an Worker
- He believed the father Owed him
  - for his Obedience
  - for his Works
  - for his performance

He shows the Work Based – Performance based Christian life

His Relationship was Rules Based

v.29 : I never transgressed your commandment at any time

- I kept the rules
- I obeyed the laws
- I paid my tithes

Luke 18:12 ; 21

‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. 12I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’

14I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other;

21And he said, “All these things I have kept from my youth.”

He shows the expectations of Believers for Blessed based on their Merit

His Relationship was Superficial

- Doesn’t call his Father – Father v.29 – Younger Son v.21
- Doesn’t call his Brother – Brother v.30 – This You Son

His Self-Righteousness Broke his Relationship with his Father and with Brother

- He finds his father Unjust – v.29 – Not even a Kid
- He accuses his brother v.30 – Sinful, Undeserving and Unworthy Like the Scribes and Pharisees

Are we Like the Lost Older Son

- Rely upon our Self-Righteous Acts
- Rely upon our Rules based Faith
- Accuse others for their mis-steps, Unable to rejoice in other's restoration
- Judge others with a yardstick made up of our merits