

“Things Accomplished Among Us” (Luke 1:1)

Selected Reflections From Luke

Lost & Found Parables

Luke 15

As soon as you look over Luke chapter 15, you see three related parables, having one basic theme: THE LOST. In verses 3-7, the lost sheep. In verses 8-10, the lost coin. In verses 11-32, the lost son – sometimes called The Prodigal Son.

The first two show a passion to find the lost, not holding back any effort to find the sheep and find the coin. What is significant is, in the case of the lost son – *the lost found the lost! He came to himself.*

The parable of the Prodigal Son is a multi-dimensional story. It is as much about the father and brother as it is the wayward son.

But observe, the father doesn't go out to find the son, and certainly the brother doesn't try to find him; even resents his return.

Here's what it says:

¹¹ And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to^[a] one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and

before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.” ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’^[b]²² But the father said to his servants,^[c] ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.”

I have one point. If you have left your Father in heaven, and you have been living in sin, even if nobody comes to get you, the Father wants you back. And you can make up your mind to leave the pig pen and go home. Thank You for listening.

-Warren E. Berkley