

Sunday, June 13, 2021
Lost Sheep. Lost Coin. Lost Sons
Luke 15:1–32

- I. The Parable of the Lost Sheep Lk. 15:4–7 (Matt. 18:12–14)
 - A. The Shepherd Searches for the Lost Lk. 15:4
 - 1. The Shepherd Has Lost a Sheep
 - 2. The Shepherd Leaves the Ninety Nine
 - B. The Shepherd Rejoices for Finding the Lost Lk. 15:5–7
 - 1. The Shepherd Rejoices
 - 2. The Shepherd Calls All to Rejoice with Him

- II. The Parable of the Lost Coin Lk. 15:8–10
 - A. The Woman Searches for the Lost
 - 1. An Illustration from the World of Women
 - 2. A Situation of Great Loss
 - B. The Woman Rejoices for Finding the Lost

- III. The Parable of the Two Lost Sons
 - A. Rebellion of the First Lost Son Lk. 15:11–16
 - 1. His Rebellion to the Father 15:11–12
 - 2. His Rebellion Brings Consequences 15:13–16
 - B. Repentance of the First Lost Son 15:17–19
 - 1. The Son Comes to His Senses
 - 2. The Son Confesses His Rebellion
 - 3. The Son Returns Home
 - C. Rejoicing over Finding the First Lost Son 15:20–24
 - 1. The Heart and Action of the Father 15:20
 - 2. The Reconciliation to the Father 15:21–24
 - D. Resentment of the Second Lost Son 15:25–32
 - 1. The Older Son’s Anger and Response
 - 2. The Older Son’s Rejection of the Father’s Love
 - 3. The Father’s Plea to Receive His Grace

- IV. The Parable of Christ and Lost Sinners
 - A. Jesus Christ Is God Searching for the Lost
 - B. Jesus Christ Is God Rejoicing in Finding the Lost

QUOTES

In his book Christianity and Liberalism, J. Gresham Machen, the Princeton professor of New Testament and champion of biblical Christianity in its contest with theological liberalism, wrote words that seem eerily prophetic about our time:

“The fundamental fault of the modern church is that it is busily engaged in an absolutely impossible task calling the righteous to repentance. Modern preachers are trying to bring men into the church without requiring them to relinquish their pride; they are trying to help men avoid the conviction of sin. . . . But it is entirely futile. Even our Lord did not call the righteous to repentance, and probably we shall be no more successful than he.”

“When we forget the freeness of grace, the purpose of our repentance becomes the appeasement of God. When we aren’t sure that God loves us in Christ, then confession and repentance become a way of keeping on God’s good side with expressions of sorrow that we hope impress him with our sincerity and move him to take pity on us. If that is what repentance becomes, it is self-righteous and will be bitter all the way to the bottom. It will lead only to a forced compliance of the will, not a change of view, motivation, and heart.”

Tim Keller

“The Father in heaven has no righteous children on earth; His grace is needed for all and most of all for those who dream they have no need of it.”

B B Warfield

“You can rebel against God and be alienated from him either by breaking his rules or by keeping all of them diligently.”

Tim Keller

“If you want to understand your own behavior, you must understand that all sin against God is grounded in a refusal to believe that God is more dedicated to our good, and more aware of what that is, than we are. We distrust God because we assume he is not truly for us, that if we give him complete control we will be miserable. Adam and Eve did not say, ‘Let’s be evil. Let’s ruin our own lives and everyone else’s too!’ Rather they thought, ‘We just want to be happy. But his commands don’t look like they will give us the things that we need to thrive. We will have to take things into our own hands—we can’t trust him.’” “Sin always begins with the character assassination of God.”

Tim Keller