



He Ran

The Parable of the Prodigal Son - Luke 15

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@SouthReno.com.

By this time a lot of men and women of doubtful reputation were hanging around Jesus, listening intently. ² The Pharisees and religion scholars were not pleased, not at all pleased. They growled, "He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends." ³ Their grumbling triggered this story. - Luke 15:1-3, The Message

A. Understanding First Century Times in Israel

Sources: Dr. John MacArthur, "The Joy of God and the Recovery of the Sinners" (The Anchor Bible Commentary on Luke) and Dr. Rough Gowers, "In that day," (New Manners and Customs of the Bible).

1. A Shameful Request: "I want my share" (v. 12)
2. A Shameful Response: "So he divided his property" (v. 12)
3. A shameful Rebellion: "The son.... squandered his wealth" (v. 13)
4. A shameful Repentance: "I will go back to my father" (v. 18)
5. A Shameful Reconciliation: "[The Father] I'll go back to my father" (v. 20)
6. A shameful Rejoicing: "Bring the best robe...ring...calf" (v. 22)
7. A shameful Rection: "The older brother became angry" (v. 28)
8. A shameful Reply: "Look..." (v. 29)

B. Understanding the Parable

Why Does the Father Run?

He ran.... ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'

- Luke 15:27, NIV84

1. Because we are like a lost _____.

The lost sheep was lost from safety.

Luke 15:4-7, NASB95 - ⁴ "What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? ⁵ "When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ "And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' ⁷ "I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

2. Because we are like a lost _____.

The lost coin was lost from usefulness/value.

Luke 15:8-10, NASB95 - ⁸ "Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ "When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost!' ¹⁰ "In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

3. Because we are like a lost _____.

The lost son was lost from fellowship.

Luke 15:20, 30-31, NASB95 - ²⁰ "So he got up and came to his father. But while he [the son] was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him... ³⁰ but when this son of yours came, who has devoured your wealth with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.' ³¹ "And he said to him, 'Son, you have always been with me, and all that is mine is yours.'