

**Luke 5:27-32** “After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. And he said to him, “Follow me.” <sup>28</sup> And leaving everything, he rose and followed him. <sup>29</sup> And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. <sup>30</sup> And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>31</sup> And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup> I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Lost or sick = Rebellious, wayward, obstinate, indifferent, relying on yourself, a sinner.  
Found or righteous = Walking with the Lord, humble, contrite.

**Scribes: *Grammateus*** — In the Bible, a man learned in the Mosaic law and in the sacred writings, an interpreter, teacher. Scribes examined the more difficult and subtle questions of the law; added to the Mosaic law decisions of various kinds thought to clarify its meaning and scope, and did this to the detriment of religion.

**Tax collectors and sinners: *Telones*** — Tax gatherer, collector of taxes or tolls, one employed by a publican or farmer general in the collection of taxes. The tax collectors were as a class, detested not only by the Jews, but by other nations also, both on account of their employment and of the harshness, greed, and deception, with which they did their job.

- ▶ I used to think righteous living had more to do with behavioral modification than heart transformation. Outward appearance of holiness was what mattered to me, rather than Spirit-filled change. I thought that if I tried to stop cussing as much and stop watching rated R movies, then that meant I was living righteously. While those are good and righteous works, the more I read the Bible, the more I learned that I had it backwards. Righteousness actually produces those works, not the other way around.



Called “righteous / just”	Verses
1. Noah	Genesis 6:9, Genesis 7:1
2. God	Ezra 9:15, Psalm 11:7, Psalm 129:4, Jeremiah 12:1, Lamentations 1:18, Dan 9:14
3. Daniel	Ezekiel 14:14
4. God The Father	John 17:25
5. Lot	2 Peter 2:8
6. Joseph Of Arimathea	Luke 23:50
7. Abel	Hebrews 11:4, Matthew 23:35, 1 John 3:12
8. Joseph	Matthew 1:19
9. Cornelius	Acts 10:22
10. John The Baptist	Mark 6:20
11. Zacharias	Luke 1:5-6
12. Elisabeth	Luke 1:5-6
13. Simeon	Luke 2:25

**Righteousness** — The understanding that on my own I am not, but through His grace and power He makes me so.

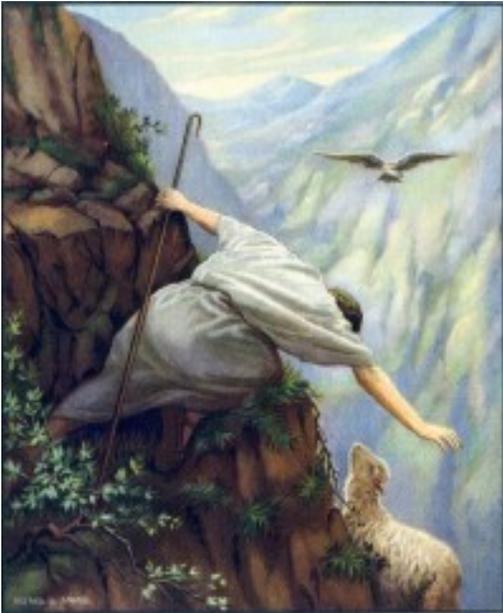
- ▶ What lengths does a person go to find something that was lost? It truly depends on what the value is of what is lost.
- ▶ In Luke chapter 15 we see Jesus being challenged by the leadership of Israel.

**Luke 15** “Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable:

<sup>4</sup> “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. <sup>6</sup> 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 that was lost.’ <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over



one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. and is found.”



<sup>8</sup> “Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents and is found.”

### The Parable of the Prodigal Son

<sup>11</sup> And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> 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.

<sup>14</sup> And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup> “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! <sup>18</sup> I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “**Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son.** Treat me as one of your hired servants. <sup>20</sup> And he

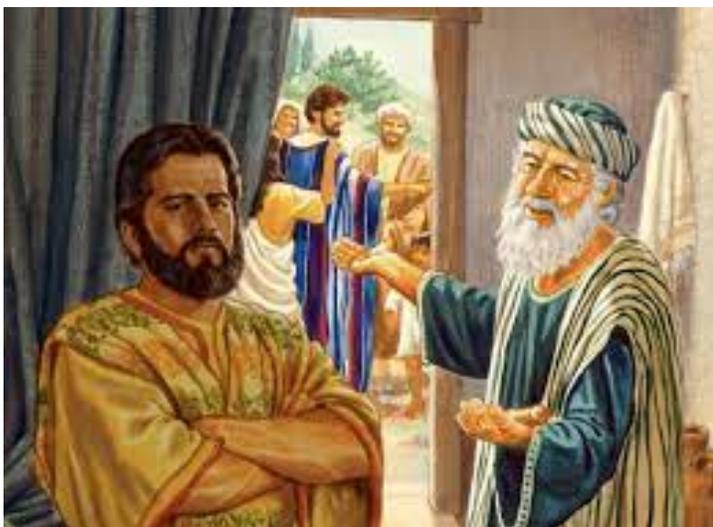




arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. **I am no longer worthy to be called your son.**'

'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; **he was lost, and is found.**' **And they began to celebrate.**

<sup>25</sup> "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.'



**But he was angry and refused to go in.**

His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup> but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came, who has



devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’<sup>31</sup> And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.’<sup>32</sup> It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

**Psalm 103:10-13** “He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup> As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.”

**Isaiah 1:18-19** “Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool <sup>19</sup> If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land.”

**James 2:12-13 (NLT)** “So whatever you say or whatever you do, remember that you will be judged by the law that sets you free. <sup>13</sup> There will be no mercy for those who have not shown mercy to others. But if you have been merciful, God will be merciful when he judges you.”

**James 2:12-13 (ESV)** “So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup> For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.”

