

Father's Day

Luke 15: 11-32

Father's Day

- The things we need to know before we explore this passage.....
 - First.... we must adapt a mindset of the era
 - Secondly...we must understand the setting
 - Thirdly....we must know to whom Jesus is speaking
 - Finally....we must understand the overall picture
- Luke 15: 11-32

Father's Day

- The mindset of those in Jesus's day.....
 - Mostly agrarian, farmers, shepherds, peasants
 - This is why Jesus so often taught in simple and often in agrarian terms.....
 - Everyone, including the Pharisees and scribes would understand these basic principles
 - Note Luke 15: 1
 - Here are the people following Jesus.....
 - Note "tax collectors and the sinners"

Father's Day

- The setting
 - Luke 15: 1-2
 - Pharisees and Scribes.....
 - Began to grumble.....to whom???
 - They are the judge, jury and executioners.....
 - Luke 11: 15
 - Charge....He receives sinners and eat with them
- Pharisees would never associate with "sinners"

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- Why did the Pharisees so hate Jesus?
 - He pointed out repeatedly.....
 - The sin of their pride (Prov 16: 18)
 - He pointed out their disdain for God (Matt 23)
 - Eight woes against them.....
 - He pointed out that in their hypocrisy
 - They killed the prophets sent to them (Matt 23)
 - In Luke 15.....He again is addressing them.....
 - Parable of lost sheep, lost coin and prodigal son

Father's Day

- Note every single parable in Luke 15.....
 - Tells of “rejoicing” over that which was lost
 - Tells of repentance and acceptance by God and the joy of God in doing so.
- The setting of our passage today.....
 - Three characters
 - The father, the younger son, the older son
 - Illustration of a dysfunctional family
 - The main character is the father, not the sons

Father's Day

- Vs 12....Father give me.....
 - The share of the estate that belongs to me
 - Note..... there is no gratitude
 - No respect for the work and effort of the father
 - Typically, an inheritance came when the father died
 - This son is saying “I wish you were dead”
- Two-fold message here.....
 - The importance of letting your children know they cannot have everything they want

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- The second half of the message
 - This is how "good people" reject God.....
 - They seek happiness instead of godliness.....
- "Estate" in Greek....ts ousias (Vs 12)
 - "the essence of being" what you have will make you.....
 - The mindset is that material goods will make me happy
 - Television...."I just want you to be happy"
 - As if happiness is the end goal of life
 - I have news for you....no one is happy all the time.....

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- “So, he divided his wealth between them”
 - Here is an illustration of what God does with those who reject Him
- Lesson # 1....you and I do not have to follow God
 - He is willing to let them go to find out what this world of sin has to offer.....
 - He does so with great sadness
- The son spends everything
 - He hires himself out
 - Greek word “kolla”...word for “glue”
 - He is stuck in a mess of his own making.....
 - He is willing to do anything for acceptance/happiness

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- His "friends" tells him to go feed the hogs
 - He would gladly fill his stomach
 - He would fight the hogs for food
- And no one was giving him anything!!
 - The survival of the fittest.....
- So, this prodigal develops a plan.....(Vs 18)
 - Note his choice here..... I will, I have...
 - I will go to my father and I will say.....
 - I have sinned as high as heaven
 - Make me like one of your hired help
- I will work my way back into.....

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- Two issues here are being illustrated
 - First....there is the illustration
 - Of man's responsibility to repent
 - Acts 17: 24-30
 - Here is a man who understands his relationship to God.....
 - The second is.....
 - Of God's ability to restore
 - Note the father does not have to receive the son back into the fold.....

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- The main character is the father
 - Note
 - His father is looking for his son to return
 - He runs to the son
 - Something a middle eastern father would never do
 - Embraced the son in all his filth
 - Kissed him with love and compassion
 - This son never left the father's heart

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- The son mumbles his speech he prepared
- The father is filled with rejoicing
 - Let's celebrate
 - This son who was dead to me
 - By his own desire
 - By his own choice
- Has come to life (Vs 24)
 - He was dead (in sins and trespasses)
 - He was lost
 - But now he is found

Father's Day

- What is the lesson fathers here today are to learn from this passage?
 - First.....being a father is not an easy task.....
 - Especially in the world in which we live today....
 - Secondly, even if your children no longer live under your roof...you are still to be an example
 - Finally.....being a father means to never lose hope that one day.....
 - For that is how God treated you and me.....