

30—The “Lost” Parables

Luke 15



1. Who was gathering around Jesus to hear His teaching (Luke 15:1)? What complaint do the Pharisees lodge about Jesus which motivates His following speeches (15:2)?

2. Summarize the first parable of Jesus, The Lost Sheep, found in Luke 15:3-7.

3. What was the attitude of man toward a lost sheep (15:4-6)? How does a man compare to a sheep? Similarly, what was the mission of Jesus as stated in Luke 5:31-32? What is God's attitude toward the restoration of a lost soul (15:7)?

4. Summarize the second parable of Jesus, The Lost Coin, found in Luke 15:8-10.

5. How would you describe the woman who lost the coin prior to rediscovering it? What does she do as she realizes it is lost? How is she described after it is found? What can we learn from her example?

6. Describe the situation of the “lost son” as he chooses to leave his father’s house (Luke 15:11-17)? What choices does he make (15:12-13)? What were the results (15:14-17)?

7. What does this boy remember about his father’s home which leads him to return home (15:17-19)? What is good about how he planned to approach his father when he returned home?

8. How does the father react when his son comes home (15:20-24)? What commendable traits do we see in this father? How does the father’s attitude toward his penitent son contrast with how the Pharisees and scribes were treating sinners (cp. 15:2)?

9. While the response to this renewed son should have been rejoicing, what was the attitude of the older brother (15:25-32)? Who does this depict in the immediate context of the situation?

10. The common denominator in each of these three parables is there was something “lost.” Yet, the key distinction may be how they were lost. Whether we are lost through negligence, ignorance, or rebellion what is the ultimate response to being “found?”

