

Tragedy Of Being Lost Luke 15

3 parables of Jesus

Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, and Prodigal son

First 2 verses introduce setting for parables following - **Luke 15:1-2**

Scribe & Pharisee attitude problem (pride, self-right)

Jesus shows that it is the will of the Father that sinners repent

Scribes & Pharisees should rejoice that sinners were converted

Result of their complaint, Jesus delivers the three parables

Luke 15:4-7 The Tragedy Of Carelessness

Shepherd leave 99 in fold where safe and go after one in danger

In parable we see the tragedy of being lost through carelessness

Christians can be lost through carelessness - **Luke 8:14**

Christians carelessly accept error - **Matthew 7:15**

Jesus' application of parable; there is great joy in heaven when lost are found (when sinners repent & turn to God) 7 - **Ezekiel 33:11**

Luke 15:8-10 The Tragedy Of Uselessness

Lost coin shows tragedy of being lost through uselessness; no value

Christians become lost when lose their usefulness thru lack of zeal

Don't give up the race - **Hebrews 12:1-2; 1Timothy 6:12**

Don't give up the service - **2Timothy 2:4; 1Corinthians 15:58**

Don't give up pressing toward the goal - **Philippians 3:13-14**

Don't give up efforts to be vessel honor - **2Timothy 2:20-21**

Great joy in heaven when one sinner repents 10 - **Revelation 3:19-20**

Luke 15:11-24 Tragedy Of Being Lost Willfully

11-13 - He did all those things willfully

He willfully asked for his inheritance

He willfully went into a foreign country

He willfully wasted his substance with riotous living

14-16 - Things can rapidly change for the sinful

Pigs unclean to Jews, feeding them was detestable occupation

Carob pods from trees like our beech trees have nuts inedible

17-19 It says that he came to himself. He came to his senses

Severe hardship has a way of causing us to face facts

Better when Word of God causes us to come to our senses

We admire his humble, thorough confession

Not as some, "If I have offended anyone, I am sorry." ie, "I don't think I have sinned, but if you think I have, I'm sorry."

Or, some who have no humility, supposedly repent then demand they be immediately restored to position of influence had before

20-24 All tears, remorse, good intentions, wonderful resolutions we may have, are worthless until acted upon

In weakened condition, return home difficult, but he made it

Father's heart went out to him. Never lost interest in son. Was continually looking for him. Receive him with warm reception

Father didn't say, "I told you so," or "I hope you have learned your lesson." Instead, gave best of treatment because as he said, 24

Reveals unfailing love of God always willing & ready to forgive

Luke 15:25-32 - The Tragedy Of Bitterness

Seldom consider themselves lost. Like the scribes & Pharisees

25-27 See common sense wisdom in reply of the servant

28-32 Some of the evil traits we see in the elder brother:

Anger (28); Sulking or pouting (28); Self-righteousness (29a); Self-pity (29b)

Slander (29b maybe guilty may not; elder no way knowing); Envy (29c); Contempt (30a)

Galatians 5:19-21 - Between gross sins are ones more common

Bitterness & hate condemn - 1John 2:10-11; 3:14-15; 1John 4:20-21

Blessings Found In Return

Have a loving Father that cares for us. Need to be careful willing to repent lest be lost through carelessness as lost sheep, uselessness, as lost coin, willfulness as lost son, or bitterness as elder brother

Make easy for sinner to surrender heart to God. God not out to destroy, but kind, loving, ready to forgive all will repent - 2Peter 3:9

Are you lost?

Dead in sin? You can be found! You can be alive!

If sin, can obey gospel. You will be found; you will be alive

Carelessness, uselessness, willfulness, bitterness, be found, alive

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