

INTRODUCTION

1. Another Triple Parable arrangement
(Luke 15)

- a) The Lost Sheep
- b) The Lost Coin
- c) The Lost Son

2. The Occasion of these Three Parables:

- a) The Lord Jesus was with tax-collectors and sinners Luke 15:1
- b) The scribes and the Pharisees complained
"This Man receives sinners and eats with them Luke 15:2
- c) This was not the first time the scribes and Pharisees had criticized Jesus
 - i) At the dinner Matthew gave when he decided to follow Jesus
Matthew 9:9-13; Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32
 - ii) At that time the Lord compared Himself to a physician
attending to the sick Mark 2:17a
 - iii) He had come to call sinners to repentance Mark 2:17b
- d) This time round, the Lord gave three Parables

THE SCRIBES AND THE PHARISEES

1. Their regard for sinners

- a) Despise
- b) Disregard
- c) Dismissive
- d) Dangerous

2. The Results:

- a) They do not care
- b) They criticize those who care
- c) They condemn

THE LORD JESUS AND HIS APPROACH

1. He is the Divine Physician

- a) He will be there for those who are weak and sick
- b) He is a Physician with a genuine heart of care and concern for the sick

2. He is the Eternal Evangelist

- a) He will reach out to the Lost
- b) He will search for them and bring them back to God
- c) He will do His work
 - i) Diligence
 - ii) Deep concern
 - iii) Determination

THE FIRST PARABLE

The Parable of the Lost Sheep
(Matthew 18:10-14; Luke 15:1-7)

1. Features of the Parable

- a) Matthew's Preamble before the Parable was given
 - i) Little ones are not to be despised Matthew 18:10a
 - ii) Angels watch over them with concern Matthew 18:10b
 - iii) The Son of Man came to save the lost Matthew 18:11

b) Matthew's Features
Matthew 18:12-14

- i) The 99 sheep safe
- ii) The shepherd searches for the lost one
- iii) He will search the mountains to find the lost sheep
- iv) If he finds it, he rejoices
- v) It is not the will of the Father to lose one of the little ones

c) Luke's Features
Luke 15:3-7

- i) He will search the wilderness
- ii) He will rejoice
- iii) He calls on others to rejoice with him
- iv) Heaven rejoices over one sinner who repents

2. Lessons from the Parable

- a) Knowing the Father's will
- b) Fulfilling His in searching for the Lost
- c) Leading people back to God
- d) Rejoicing much over a person who is saved

THE SECOND PARABLE
The Parable of the Lost Coin
Luke 15:8-10

1. Features of the Parable

- a) A woman with 10 silver coins
- b) One coin is lost

- c) Searching for the lost coin
 - i) Lights a lamp
 - ii) Sweeps the house
 - iii) Searches carefully
 - iv) Until the lost coin is found
- d) Calling on friends to rejoice
- e) Joy in the presence of angels in heaven over one sinner who repents

2. Lessons from the Parable of the Lost Coin

- a) The search for the lost coin
- b) The joy that is there when it is found
- c) The joy of the angels in heaven when a sinner repents

THE THIRD PARABLE

The Parable of the Lost Son
(The Parable of the Prodigal Son)
Luke 15:11-32

1. Features of the Parable of the Lost Son

- a) A father and his two sons
- b) One stays at home dutifully
- c) The other leaves home with a fortune and squanders it
- d) He comes to his senses
- e) He returns home and is joyously welcomed by his father
- f) His brother is angry because of the things done for the prodigal brother
- g) The father's insight
"Your brother was dead and is now alive again, and was lost and is found"

Luke 15:31

2. Lessons from the Parable of the Lost Son

a) Remarks of the brother who stayed at home

- i) He was angry Luke 15:28
- ii) He was self-righteous
- iii) He listed the things he did right Luke 15:29
- iv) His criticism of the prodigal brother Luke 15:30

b) Rejoinder of the father

- i) It is right to make merry and be glad Luke 15:31a
- ii) Your brother was dead and is now alive again Luke 15:31b
- iii) And was lost and is found Luke 15:31c

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To be concerned about the Lost

- a) Natural
- b) Good

2. To search for the Lost

- a) Parable of the Lost Sheep
- b) Parable of the Lost Coin

3. To welcome the repentant who return

- a) To rejoice
- b) To understand the reasons for rejoicing
 - i) The dead has come alive
 - ii) The lost is now found