

## THE LOST AND FOUND

### Luke 15:3-32

**Introduction:** Salvation is not a matter of certain ones being already chosen and others not. God weeps over the lost and celebrates when someone is saved. God is also constantly pursuing those that are lost and not wishing or wanting any to perish. Jesus gave us three parables about things lost and then found as He once again revealed the heart of God.

#### I. THE HUNDRED SHEEP (vv3-7)

1. Getting lost was an expected behavior.
2. Searching for the one lost was a matter of love for the one lost.
3. Upon finding the lost one, friends were notified of the find.
4. God not only records the names of those saved, but also was involved in seeking them out.
5. All of heaven (associated with God) rejoices over every person who comes to the Lord Jesus/who is found.

#### II. THE TEN COINS (vv8-10)

1. The coins were a part of the woman's dowry.
2. The place where lost was dark and on a straw and dirt floor.
3. When the coins were found, the woman had to tell all her friends, she couldn't conceal her happiness.
4. God is deeply touched when one He has been seeking is saved/found.
5. There is uncontained joy, pure bliss and unrestrained celebration in heaven when one is found, being brought to the Lord Jesus.

#### III. THE TWO SONS (vv11-32)

1. One of the sons exhibited contemptible behavior and left home.
2. This son led a wild life for a while, but finally came to his senses.
3. His sorrow led to repentance, a sense of need, admitted that he had done wrong, wanted to go home and ask his father for forgiveness.
4. This son did a complete "turn around" and was a different person than when he left home.
5. His father had been looking for him every day to come home.

6. This son was already forgiven before he could even confess to his father.
7. The brother, the other son, was furious, jealous upon the return of his brother and their father's actions.
8. This brother, this son was also "lost" but he could not see where he was in the wrong.

**CONCLUSION:**

1. God longs for the lost to be saved and goes out to find them, thus seeking to save the lost.
2. All of heaven rejoices whenever a single person is saved.
3. Often the most "unlikely" sinners are quicker to understand their lost-ness than "religious" sinners.
4. God is seeking the lost:
  - Those who acknowledge their sin and turn from their sin will find Him welcoming them with open arms, just as in the parable of the wayward son.
  - Those who refuse to acknowledge their sin will find themselves excluded from heaven and acting like the jealous brother who refused to join in welcoming his brother home.