

ALL THE PARABLES OF JESUS

A SYSTEMATIC SERIES

UNVEILING GODS ETERNAL TRUTH IN THE PARABOLIC TEACHINGS OF JESUS CHRIST

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“THE PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL”

ALL THE PARABLES OF JESUS UNVEILED

Part 2

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Repentance, Pride, Humility, Restoration, Love, Forgiveness

Luke 15:11-19

It's interesting to note that Charles Dickens wrote that
“The Parable of the Prodigal is the finest short story ever written.”

Prodigal GRK 811 *asotos*, *as-o'-toce*;
adverb from the same as 810; unlimited extravagance, unlimited lavishness, unlimited
zeal, unlimited abandonment.

Contrary to what the Pharisees Believed - That Jesus was Somehow Soft on Sin, Jesus is
“intensifying” the issue of sin in this parable

THE PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL

1.) The Prodigal Son

v.11-19

Luke 15:11-19

Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, “***Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.***” So he divided to them his livelihood. ¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all (*to liquidate*) together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with **prodigal** living. ¹⁴ But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘***How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!***’ ¹⁸ ***I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you,”*** ¹⁹ ***and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired*** (*skilled craftsmen – pay you back*) ***servants.***” ’

Then He said: “A certain man had two sons.

This “Then He said” is key, because it demands that what's about to be said is in concert with what was just said = the two preceding parables were spoken to the same people, at the same time, for the same effect.

Remembering the Context of Luke Chapter 15
The Parable of the Lost Sheep & The Parable of the Lost Coin

THE PRODIGAL SON

1a.) Rejects the authority of others

v.11-12

¹¹ Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, "**Father, give me** (he orders his father) **the portion of goods that falls to me.** (at the parents death)' So he divided to them his livelihood.

If **Marriage** is the most "godlike union" and it is vital a man and woman can experience on earth.

Then **Parenting** is the most "godlike ministry" a parent can experience on earth.

¹² And the younger of them said to his father, "**Father, give me** (he orders his father) **the portion of goods that falls to me.** (at the parents death)' So he divided to them his livelihood.

Kenneth Baily, Middle East Scholar,

Tells of a story when he was teaching at a Christian seminary in Tehran that a student of his called in the middle of the night and said "you need to get over here quick, my brother is trying to kill my father" because that son, the brother had asked his father for his inheritance in advance. (Baily points out that 3 months later the father died of a heart attack but the mother had said "no, he died the day our son asked for his inheritance.")

A Prodigal Rejects Authority

??? Carefully address this issue – generically ???

What causes a child to depart from what they have known?

It's The "Self Realization" of "Self" and Self is "Sin"

Proverbs 22:15

Foolishness (self) is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him.

??? Carefully address this issue – generically ???

Fear of the child perhaps having never been saved at all.

A Prodigal Rejects Authority

We human beings were never created to be without an authority over us.

Without God as our authority, we will seek to allow ourselves to have a tyrant or dictators or a ruler to be over us – **it's human nature.**

??? Carefully address this issue – generically ???

What was the young man's expectations?

Genesis 3:1-6

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "**Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?**" (sowing doubt) ² And the woman said to the serpent, "**We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; ³ but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'**" ⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, "You

will not surely die. (*false doctrine*)⁵ **For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, (*undermining authority*) knowing good and evil.**⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, (*flesh*) that it was pleasant to the eyes (*lust*), and a tree desirable to make one wise (*pride*), she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

THE PRODIGAL SON

1b.) Makes the wrong decisions

v.13-14

13 And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with **prodigal** living. 14 But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want.

??? Carefully address this issue – generically ???
What is the child thinking when they depart?

At this point the child is thinking: I CAN DO THIS LIFE THING BETTER.

There is something about distance that soothes
the rebel's conscience. – "My mom and dad can't see me now"

??? Carefully address this issue – generically ???
What are parents to do when enduring such pain?

Bring Your Thoughts Back to the Bible.

Proverbs 15:5 NLT

Only a fool despises a **parent's discipline**; whoever learns from correction is wise.

There are no perfect parents – God's grace will prevail.

??? Carefully address this issue – generically ???
How does their leaving affect the family? (**siblings**)

Protect Your Home and Family, Wife and Kids from Further Destruction.
Godly, Biblical Love, and Guidance Must be Deployed @ Home

Love Your Child(ren) Right

Proverbs 29:15 NLT

To discipline a child produces wisdom, but a mother is disgraced by an undisciplined child.

THE PRODIGAL SON

1c.) Will eventually face the outcome

v.15-16

¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

STAY BACK - SUFFERING MUST HAVE ITS PROPER EFFECT - STAY BACK

??? Carefully address this issue – generically ???

Parents need to let their child suffer - *never assist in your child's destructive behavior*

Proverbs 22:6

Train up (a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.

Train up **HEB 2596 chanak, khaw-nak´;**
to make narrow, to initiate or dedicate or set a straight course. To steer in the direction of what they are to become. (Body, soul, spirit)

And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

Hardship + Suffering + Pain = Hope

??? Carefully address this issue – generically ???

What's the future fallout of their decisions (for the family)

THE PRODIGAL SON

1d.) Repents of his deeds

v.17-19

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, '*How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!* ¹⁸ *I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you,* ¹⁹ *and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me (I submit to your authority) like one of your hired servants."*'

Notice here the (metanoia) - the change of mind.

I am not as great as I thought I was. In fact, I am nothing at all.

He was stripped of what he thought was the answer

to his life's desires. "**He came to himself**" The meaning implies that he was emptied out and spent and looking around, he saw only a shell of what he was before leaving home.

Ray Stedman writes:

"Perhaps the most hopeful sentence in this entire parable is the phrase with which this section is introduced, "But when he came to himself." Years ago, I heard a very eloquent preacher speaking on this parable. He was illustrating what happened to the prodigal son in the far country. He said, "As his money disappeared he had to sell his coat in order to eat. Then he took off his shoes and sold those. Then he took off his shirt and sold that. Then he took off his pants and sold that, he sold everything until he came to himself!"

This Brings the Young Man to a Dangerous Point
And perhaps one of Satan's most favorite and successful weapons,
The Sense of Overwhelming Condemnation.

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Galatians 6:1

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

Jeremiah 3:22a

“Return, you backsliding children, And I will heal your backslidings.”

A little over one hundred years ago, a man by the name of Robert Robinson was riding a stagecoach. Another passenger in the coach was humming a verse of the hymn, “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.” Then the first verse: “Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; Praise His name – I'm fixed upon it – name of God's redeeming love.” She asked Robinson what he thought of the hymn. His answer was a strange one. He said, “Madam, I am the poor, unhappy man who wrote that hymn many years ago, and I would give a thousand worlds, if I had them, to enjoy the feelings I had then.” Robinson had been saved at age 19 through the preaching of George Whitefield. Later, he became a preacher, first in a Methodist church; then in a Baptist church; later in the Unitarian church, which denies the deity of Jesus Christ. He became a wandering, miserable, wayward soul!

Robinson failed to heed the words that he himself penned in the third verse of the song: “O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee: Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love; Here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.”

>>>> The Cross, The Christ, The
Call <<<<

_____*End of Study*_____

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