



# The Parable of the Prodigal Son a Second Look

## Luke 15:11-32

### INTRODUCTION

- Prodigal means recklessly extravagant characterized by wasteful expenditure
- Taking a second look on the parable of the Prodigal son will help us understand our salvation deeper.

### I. MAIN CHARACTERS

- A. Father
- B. Older Son
- C. Younger Son

### II. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHARACTERS

- A. Father – vs. 20, 22-24, 31-32
  - Lenient, loving compassionate, forgiving father
- B. Older Son – vs. 20, 22 -24, 31-32
  - Homebody, serious outlook in life, obedient, hardworking.
  - Bitter, envious, jealous, unforgiving
- C. Younger Son vs. 11-21
  - Outgoing, pleasure loving, extravagant, demanding

- Disrespectful, proud, impulsive, daring, repentant

### III. PERSONS REPRESENTED BY THE CHARACTERS

- A. Father – God
- B. Older Son – Active believers (Believers who are actively seen on worship service and other Church activities)
- C. Younger Son – Inactive or backslidden Believers.

### IV. SPIRITUAL INSIGHTS FOR LIVING

#### A. FROM THE FATHER WE LEARNED THAT...

1. God is a loving, compassionate, considerate and gracious Father. He loves us in spite of who we are and what we do.
2. When God looks at us, He does not look at us on our outward life. He looks at us in our inward life. He knows that our outward life is the reflection of what is inside us.

**1 Samuel 16:7** But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

**1 Chronicles 28:9** “And you, my son Solomon, acknowledge the God of your father, and serve him with wholehearted devotion and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches every heart and understands every motive

behind the thoughts. If you seek him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, he will reject you forever.

3. The Father was excited to have his son back because what He sees in his heart exceeds his failure. The Father saw a repentant heart.

## B. FROM THE YOUNGER SON WE LEARNED THAT...

1. A Child of God who ran away (backslid) from home is not lost. First, because he has a home to go back to, and secondly he knows the way back home.
2. The road to recovery starts with hardship.  
Hardship → Realization → Repentance → Restoration

**James 4:10** Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift You up.

**1 Peter 5:5** Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility one toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

**1 Peter 5:6** Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him because He cares for you.

## C. FROM THE OLDER BROTHER, WE LEARNED THAT

1. God puts us in a situation to reveal what is in our heart. The older Son’s heart was revealed when the father welcomed the prodigal son with a feast. His envy, bitterness, jealousy, unforgiveness came out.

2. The older son failed to see that the wealth in his father's house belongs to him, thus he cannot enjoy it because his eyes are covered with spiritual cataract called: Envy, Bitterness, Jealousy, and Unforgiveness.

## CONCLUSION

1. There are two eternal blessings that God has blessed us with:
  - a. The blessing of Relationship – 1 John 1:1-14
  - b. The blessing of Fellowship- 1 John 1:1-7
2. When the younger son left the home, his relationship with his father remains intact. His fellowship on the other hand is broken. That is why he cannot enjoy the blessings coming from his father because he is not in fellowship with his father.
3. The older son on the other hand though he is living in the house with the father yet he does not have fellowship with his father that is why he failed to see and enjoy the blessing that is rightfully his. He did not have fellowship with his father because the envy, bitterness, jealousy, and unforgiveness prevented him from doing it.

**Isaiah 59:1** Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. <sup>2</sup> But your iniquities have separated you from God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. <sup>3</sup> For your hands are stained with blood, your fingers with guilt. Your lips have spoken lies, and your tongue mutters wicked things.