

## Jesus Welcomes Sinners – Luke 15:1-10

Outline By: Mark Knowles 05/04/14 AM

### **Introduction**

1. Luke chapter 15 has been called “the gospel in the gospel” because it contains the very essence of the good news in which Jesus came to tell. Jesus tells three parables from situations that have come about.
2. Three words summarize the message of this chapter: lost, found, and rejoice. Jesus spoke these parables to answer accusations of the Pharisees and scribes who were sickened by Jesus acceptance of sinners. Even so these parables are meant for us to be participants, characters in the story...

#### **I. The Unwilling Listeners – Luke 15:1-3**

- a. The Two Groups Around Jesus
  - i. The tax collectors and sinners
  - ii. Pharisees and the teachers of the law
    1. This groups was offended that Jesus eat with sinners which was forbidden to their laws
    2. Jesus responds to them with three stories challenging their point of view...

#### **II. The Lost Things – Luke 15:4-5,8**

- a. Their Categories About Sin
  - i. The parable of the Lost Sheep and the Shepherds Joy
    1. Why were the sheep lost? – Foolishness ( 1 Peter 2:25; Isaiah 53:6)
    2. The Pharisees had no problem seeing sinners as lost sheep
  - ii. The parable of the Lost Coin
    1. The coin was lost due to carelessness of another
  - iii. Both are incapable of finding their way home

#### **III. The Joyful Seekers – Luke 15:6-7; 9-10**

- a. Jesus Confronts Their Categories About Salvation
  - i. The Pharisees and scribes believed that salvation comes from works alone and not by faith and grace. If we just work hard enough or try hard enough that God will reward us for our good deeds.
  - ii. Jesus says He is like the Shepherd who goes and seeks to save the lost. God is at search for the lost. It is the opposite of their belief of salvation. Salvation comes by grace, mercy and compassion from God not our achievement! (Ephesians 2:4-10)
  - iii. Jesus did not see sinners and the lost as the Pharisees do. Jesus has joy in finding and saving the lost! This is exactly why they were offended by Jesus.

Are you lost from God? Jesus wants us to come home to the Father and find abundant life and grace. Jesus is the shepherd who will carry us home will you let Him? Will you let Jesus be your shepherd?

