

The True Elder Brother – Luke 15:1-6, 25-32

Outline By: Mark Knowles 05/25/14 AM

Introduction

1. The story we have traditionally called “The Prodigal Son” is more than just a parable of one lost son but about two lost sons. However if we put the three parables of Luke 15 together we find there is much more to be seen and understood...

I. The Cost Of Reconciliation – Luke 15:29-31

- a. What did it cost to bring the younger brother home?
 - i. At first glance it seems to not have cost anything. It was free!
 - ii. Then why would the elder brother be furious?
- b. The Elder Brother Was Furious
 - i. He was angry with his father for using his inheritance on “this son” of his.
 - ii. All that was left from the split inheritance belonged to the elder brother “everything I have is yours” v31
 - iii. It was true that father cannot forgive and bring the younger son home except at the expense of the elder brother.

II. There Is A Missing Elder Brother – Luke 15:1-10

- a. Someone Has To Pay
 - i. Salvation is not free! It is either paid by the sinner or by the elder brother.
- b. Who will search for the lost?
 - i. In the first two parables there is a lost object and someone who searches for it and brings it home with joy.
 - ii. But where is that person in this parable? He is not there!

III. We Have A True Elder Brother

- a. What kind of brother do we need?
 - i. Willing to go from heaven to earth
 - ii. Willing to give his life for my benefit
 - iii. Willing to look past the sin and share grace
- b. All this is found in Jesus...
 - i. Colossians 1:19-23 – By the father’s good pleasure he sent Jesus to make peace and to pay our debt of sin. To bring us home where we belong.
 - ii. Philippians 2:3-11 – Jesus loved us more than his own well being, humbled himself to become a man obedient to God even to death on the cross for you and me!
 - iii. 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 – God through Jesus has reconciled us to the father so we can be forgiven.
 - iv. Ephesians 2:13-19 – We have been brought home through Jesus’ blood so that we be in God’s household.
- c. Jesus Is Our True Elder Brother!!!
 - i. Jesus came to earth to search for us, to find us and bring us home at his expense. It cost him his life so that by his resurrection we have new life with Him! HOME!