

# Sermon Notes

## Prodigal Twins and What God is Really Like

Luke 15:1-32; 2 Corinthians 4:4,6,10,11

Dennis Gleason, January 14, 2018

Jesus told a parable to the Pharisees and tax collectors to show them what God is really like. (Luke 15:1-3)

This is one parable with three movements:

- Lost sheep sought by the shepherd
- A lost coin searched for by a woman
- A lost son seeking out his father

The parable presents us with a 3-fold picture of God:

- **Suffering:**  
The Good Shepherd, the Son of God, who suffers all the way to the Cross to save His sheep.
- **Searching:**  
The Holy Spirit who persistently searches for those who are lost.
- **Singing:**  
God the Father who rejoices as He graciously accepts those who come home.

**The Lost Son: A Prodigal** (Luke 15:11-20)

- Demanding
- Wasteful
- Sinful
- Repentant
  - True repentance requires two things:
    - Action...I will get up and go
    - Confession...I have sinned

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**The Father's Response:** (Luke 15:20-24)

- Looking and watching for his lost son
- Running
- Kissing
- Rejoicing
- Accepting without reservation
- Going out to the older brother

**The picture of the older brother** shows us that there is more than one way to be lost:

- He is a Prodigal Twin – no different from his brother
- He was self-righteous, angry and bitter
- Sinning against the father's ways while staying home

God's love and favor cannot ever be earned-it is only by Grace.

**How will you be able to see God for who He really is?**

(2 Corinthians 4:4,6,10,11)

When we hear the good news about Jesus, God reveals Himself to us as He really is.

He shines light into our hearts-"...the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." He does this so that we might have hope and have the very life of Jesus.

When you want to know what God is like... look to Jesus.

He is the light of the world and reveals what God is like to those who trust Him.