



The Story of the Prodigal Son

Sermon by Ray Reynolds (6/17/09 – Wednesday night)

Text – Luke 15:11-32

Introduction: Jesus spent most of His time with people who messed up. He was criticized by the Pharisees for associating with prostitutes, tax collectors and other sinners. Christ told the parable of the prodigal son to confront the self-righteousness of these religious leaders. This entire chapter is one that we all should take to heart. Jesus teaches how important it is to be saved and how God truly feels as our Heavenly Father. Let's read the text together and then we'll talk about it

Discussion:

I. THE MESSAGE OF THE STORY

- A. The Father
- B. The Younger Son
- C. The Servants
- D. The Older Son

II. THE MISERY OF SIN

- Step #1 = Desire (v.12)
- Step #2 = Demand (v.12)
- Step #3 = Departure (v.13)
- Step #4 = Dissipation (v.13)
- Step #5 = Destitution (v.14)
- Step #6 = Degradation (vs.15-16)
- Step #7 = Depression (vs.17)

III. THE MIRACLE OF SALVATION

- Step #1 = Realization (v.17)
- Step #2 = Repentance (v.18)
- Step #3 = Returning (vs.19-20)
- Step #4 = Resignation (v.21)
- Step #5 = Restoration (v.22)
- Step #6 = Rejoicing (v.23)
- Step #7 = Revival (v.24)

IV. THE MEANING OF THE STORY

- A. The Characters
- B. Sin Will Tempt Us
- C. God Will Save Us

Conclusion: God loves us enough to let us choose our own way. God can clean up any life, no matter how messed-up it may be, because he wants all men to be saved (**II Peter 3:9**). The prodigal son found the very things he had run away to find. If you want safety, security, and salvation you will not find it away from God so don't go out searching for it. God will receive any sinner that repents (**Luke 15:7, Acts 17:30**).

WORD OF THE DAY = "Father"