

Jesus Told Us:
Parable of the Lost Coin
October 7, 2018
Luke 13:20-30

The Parable of the Lost Coin

8 'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." ¹⁰**Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'**

Listening to the Parables of Jesus brings us life! ... Sometimes Jesus is teaching us transformational grace. Sometimes teaching us the lessons of the kingdom of heaven. Last week... Pastor Matt reminded us of Jesus Parable of the talents. Teaching us integrity and the power of radical repentance. The Parables of Jesus teach us the counter-cultural power of living in God's mighty Kingdom!

Sometimes when we hear the message, it is a word of biting judgment on the way we are living. AND THEN, along comes the Lord's word of grace / love / hope that undergirds the GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST

Today ... the Parable of the LOST COIN ... Lost coin parable is in the heart of three parables: the Lost Sheep / the Lost Coin / The Lost Son...

The key word: "LOST"

Listen to the opening of the 15th chapter of LUKE:

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

15Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." ⁷**Just so, I tell you,**

there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

And on the heels of the one in Ninety-nine sheep ... one Lost coin of ten:

The Parable of the Lost Coin

8 'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." ¹⁰**Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'**

After the lost sheep and coin ...

A son wants his inheritance. In front of his big brother, receives that inheritance from his father... goes off and spends it all. Then when it all runs out, he Comes home again ... Dad has a party! And puts the family ring back on his finger while the older son watches. The father says to the older son:

LUKE 15:31: "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; **he was lost and has been found.**"

Are these parables about the LOST sheep / The LOST coin / The LOST son ...

Or are they about a message to the 99 SHEEP / the 9 COINS / the Older Son?

ROMANS 3:

'There is no one who is righteous, not even one;

11 there is no one who has understanding, there is no one who seeks God.

12 All have turned aside, together they have become worthless;

there is no one who shows kindness, there is not even one.'

John Newton wrote:

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found;
was **blind**, but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.

3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

So here we are:

Lost / in the need of Grace ... receiving it!
Wanting to be one of the repentant ones in
God's eyes... but the truth is we are not the
ones doing anything ... other than being lost ...
other than wandering away ... other than being
defiant of God ...
And the activity of the kingdom parables Jesus
teaches us ... is that God is the one doing the
seeking!

OR are we here ONE OF THE 99 SHEEP
WATCHING the shepherd go after that lost
one?

OR are we ONE Of the 9 COINS securely in
the belt of the woman wondering about how /
when / where that other coin slipped out?

OR are we the Older Brother?

The Sheep did not return seeking the
shepherd!

The SHEEP DID not stand on it's hind legs and
say ... "OVERHERE!" The 99 did not help
look!

The COIN DID not ROLL INTO THE LIGHT
and say ... I repent and I am sorry for being
Lost come FIND ME! The 9 coins did not glow
to assist the search!

AND ... that younger son, did turn around and
say... I am sorry Father, I sinned against God
and You!

And the Older son ... the Older son said ...
Father, why would you welcome that
degenerate child you gave everything to and
he took advantage of you? THE ELDER SON
did not say, thanks for knowing I was here at
your side all along! I felt lost at your side
father.

Paul wrote to the Ephesians Chapter 2:

⁸For by grace you have been saved through
faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift
of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one
may boast.

Three Parables ending with summary words of
Jesus:

⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one
sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who
need no repentance.

¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of
God over one sinner who repents.'

"Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we
had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead
and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."

When the LORD finds LOST! Who exactly is lost?
Whoever is lost and whoever is found... It is time to
party!

Prayer:

Lord, Thy word is a lamp unto our feet. Why you
continue to reach for us when we find ourselves lost, we
will only know because of your unconditional and
everlasting love! You love us when we love. You love
us when we get lost. You love us when we miss-behave
and sin. You love us when we sit in our righteousness
and point at others who sin. YOU LOVE US when we
are lost! Please Lord, keep your light unto our paths!
This and so much more, I pray in Jesus name!

Amy Grant – Thy Word Lyrics

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid,
And think I've lost my way.
Still, You're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near;
Please be near me to the end.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.

I will not forget
Your love for me and yet,
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus be my guide,
And hold me to Your side,
And I will love you to the end.

Nothing will I fear
As long as You are near;
Please be near me to the end.

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
And a light unto my path.
You're the light unto my path.