

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"Lost & Found"
Luke 15:1-10
Study-64

Luke 15 Is "The Lost And Found Chapter"

Better called "**Lost, Sought For, Found, and Rejoiced Over Chapter.**"

Matthew records the lost sheep: Matthew 18:12-14

The Context: The occasion of this parable is key to understanding it! It is ONE Parable with THREE parts: Luke 15:3 So He told them this parable, Lost Sheep - then found, Lost Coin - then found, Lost Son - then found. (Lost, Seeking, Found, and Joy)

(Tax Collectors and Sinners, Pharisees, and Scribes) found in all three parts.

Jesus says the same thing **three times** but gives it from a different perspective.

The Tax Collectors and Sinners are "the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son."

The Pharisees and Scribes are "the ninety-nine sheep, the nine coins, and the elder brother."

**All were lost, but only the Tax Collectors and Sinners knew it.
Luke 5:31-32**

Thought Of Our Passage: "God Loves The Lost, And Seeks The Lost, Rejoicing Over The Lost When They Are Found."

- 1. Verses 1-3 Lost Sinners**
- 2. Verses 4-7 Lost Sheep**
- 3. Verses 8-10 Lost Coin**

1. Verses 1-3 Lost Sinners:

Luke 15:1 Now Context - Luke left off with Jesus preparing large crowds for the cross. "**Counting The Cost**" **Luke 14:35 He who has ears to hear, let him hear.**" Note - **Luke 15:1 were coming near Him to listen to Him.**

tax collectors – They were part of a system called "**Tax Farming,**" and were hated traitors! They were considered turncoats because they collected for Rome, which the Jews hated.

and the sinners Immoral, irreligious, or nonpracticing Jew. Those who openly sinned or those who had no desire for religion and God.

were coming near Him to listen to Him.

Why would they do this? Jesus had just said in **Luke 14:35** **He who has ears to hear, let him hear.**" (**So, they came!**)

Attraction To Jesus Was Not From Him Compromising.

Their Attraction To Jesus Was His Care For Sinners: (John 4 Woman at the well) Luke 5:32 "**I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.**"

Because Of Jesus' Love, The Religious Criticized Him (The Religious Did Not Share The Heart of Jesus)

to listen to Him. Jesus spoke to their hearts and the things relevant to the needs of life.

Luke 15:2 Both the Pharisees

"The separate ones" or the conservatives of His day.

They reduced a relationship to God as a set of rules and regulations.

and the scribes *"The interpreters of the Word." Theologians.*

began to grumble,

The word actually sounds like what it says, "Gru-u-m-ble."

receives – *"to welcome as a friend, sincere welcome, with open arms"*
Jesus was reaching out to the lost!

and eats with them."

To eat with someone was considered acceptance, and being one with that person. (**Levi – Luke 5:29**)

A Jewish saying was, *"God was not pleased with such sinners and even delighted in their death"* **Acts 10:43; 1 Timothy 1:15; Luke 19:10**

Luke 15:3 He told them Jesus addressed the religious who did not see themselves as sinners/lost in need of salvation.

this parable Notes that there is only one parable, but it has three parts to it. Jesus says the same thing **three times** but gives it from a different perspective.

2. Verses 4-7 Lost Sheep:

Luke 15:4 "What man among you, Jesus uses the parable to draw the audience in to see ourselves. This is what God does; what about you?

(Jewish Thinking – Shepherd of Israel – God Is The Owner)

Psalm 23; Isaiah 40:11

(The average number to own was 20-200 Sheep)

Sheep – in Scripture, was used by God to describe people. Sheep are dependent upon the Shepard for protection. They need to be led; they get frightened easily.

**lost one of them,
How did the sheep get lost? (Sheep Are Foolish)**

**God Values The Lost:
does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture,**

**God Seeks The Lost:
and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it?**
Notice the effort that is involved here. **Ezekiel 34; John 10:11, 16**

This concept of God seeking out a sinner was revolutionary to Israel.

Why didn't the shepherd just wait for the sheep to return home?
Sheep have no sense of direction. They don't know their way back home.

Luke 15:5 lays it on his shoulders, The Shepard would carry the lamb so that the lamb would become accustomed to the voice of the Shepard.

Psalms 119:71; Psalms 28:9; Isaiah 46:4

Great Joy Over Finding The Lost: rejoicing.

Luke 15:6 The Shepard gets home, and the first thought is to call all his friends to tell them the good news.

**We Should Share God's Great Joy Over Finding The Lost:
saying to them, 'Rejoice with me,** There is joy when the lost are found.

for I have found my sheep which was lost!' The heart of a follower of God is a heart of rejoicing when the lost is found.

lost! What do we mean? Being out of fellowship or not in a right relationship with God!

Luke 15:7 "I tell you that in the same way,
Jesus is giving the application here. It is more than a lost sheep, but it is lost sinners that Jesus is trying to teach us.

**Gods Eternal Joy Over Finding The Lost:
there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents,**
Earth is not the model, but heaven is. As it is in heaven.

**God's Great Pity For The Lost:
than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.**
This is the (Pharisees and Scribes)

3. Verses 8-10 Lost Coin:

Luke 15:8 "Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins (God Is The Owner) The coin is a "*drachma*," or a day's wages, and is possibly all of her life's savings; or when a Jewish woman was married, she wore a headband of 10 silver coins on a silver chain.

God Values The Lost: and loses one coin, (Possible Carelessness)
This was important to her.

God Seeks The Lost: does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully

until she finds it? Notice that this woman is not giving up until she finds this one lost coin.

A small coin illustrates that no one is too obscure; no one is beyond Him. He will stay on our case until our time is ended.

Luke 15:9 The joy over this one lost coin! **2 Peter 3:9**

Luke 15:10 "In the same way,
The persistence of God over the lost sinner.

Gods Eternal Joy Over Finding The Lost: I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

God Places Tremendous Worth For The Lost:

Application:

1. God Loves Sinners. Those That Truly Know God, And Know His Heart, Also Love Sinners: **John 10:11**
2. God Not Only Receives, And Forgives Sinners, But Actually Seeks Out The Sinner: **Luke 19:10; Isaiah 53:6**
3. God Not Only Seeks Out The Sinner But Does So Until They Are Found: **Isaiah 46:4**
4. God Is Joyful Over The Repentance Of A Lost Sinner. Heaven Shares This Eternal Joy Over Sinners Being Found: