

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE

SERMON OUTLINE

By James M. Duncan, Pastor

NOVEMBER 5, 2017

#7 Series on Parables

“PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP AND LOST COIN”

Luke 15:1-10

There are some passages of Scripture that are a blessing. There are some that are classic. We're going to deal with one of those passages this morning. Now these Pharisees V-2, in whom the milk of human kindness had curdled, began to criticize.

And then there were the **publicans and the sinners (v-1)**. In Jewish culture they were denounced and hated because they were turncoat Jews who had sold their souls to buy Roman tax-gathering franchises, so they could prey on their fellow Jews. "**Sinners**" were those who were immoral or not living according to the establishment's strictures.

Now some people think in this 15th chapter there are three parables, but really, it's one parable with three parts to it. Also, it is significant that Jesus **attracted** sinners while the Pharisees **repelled** them. What does that say about the church today?

Three words summarize the message of this chapter: **lost, found, and rejoice**. Jesus spoke this parable to answer the accusations of the Pharisees and scribes who were scandalized at His behavior.

So first of all, we are going to look at...

I. THE LOST SHEEP. Vs. 4-7

Let me tell you three things about a sheep . . .

First of all, a sheep is **DUMB**

Secondly a sheep is **DEPENDENT**

Thirdly a sheep is **DEFENSELESS**

Then Jesus tells us about the . . .

II. THE LOST COIN Vs. 8-10

How was this coin lost?

It was lost in **Darkness** V-8

It was lost in the **Dirt**

It was lost in **Disgrace**

Now look at the third truth we see here . . .

III. THERE WAS REJOICING Vs. 5-7; 9-10

Note two things:

A. God's joy is over sinners who repent, not over the righteous who need no repentance.

B. God's joy is shared by the angels in heaven.

Again, let me briefly apply this. *If God so rejoices when sinners repent, should not we?* The things that make us happy reflect our values or what we consider important. These parables show God's concern and compassion for sinners, but not for sinners en masse, but for individual sinners.

And so, man is so **weak** like a lost sheep: dumb, dependent, defenseless. Man is so **worthless** like a lost coin: lost in the dark, lost in the dirt, lost in disgrace.

Remember, they're asking Jesus, "Why do you keep company with these people?" And Jesus said, "That's why I do it." That the **LOST** might be **FOUND** and that then there will be **REJOICING**.