

ALL THE PARABLES OF JESUS

A SYSTEMATIC SERIES

UNVEILING GODS ETERNAL TRUTH IN THE PARABOLIC TEACHINGS OF JESUS CHRIST

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER WNX-603 OCTOBER 10, 2013

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP" - PART 2

ALL THE PARABLES OF JESUS UNVEILED

Parable #13

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Repentance, Salvation, God's Faithfulness, Sheep

Luke 15:1-7

It's One of the Most Beloved Parables of Jesus,

And rightfully so. It was spoken in an electrically charged atmosphere. The religious scribes and the professional Pharisees were seeking to capture Jesus in something by which they could condemn Him to death.

Luke 15:1-3

Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. **2** And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "**This Man receives sinners and eats with them.**" **3** So He (Jesus) spoke this parable to them, saying:

Luke 15:4-7

4 "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? **5** And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, **rejoicing.** **6** And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, "**Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!**" **7** I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who **repents** than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

Luke 15:1-3

Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. **2** And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "**This Man receives sinners and eats with them.**" **3** So He spoke this parable to them, saying:

Consider the Setting:

It appears to be a large crowd of people and the multitude of them is mixed. There are those who were honestly curious about Jesus Christ and His teachings and miracles. Of course there would be those who were there to catch a glimpse of a famous and controversial figure such as Jesus, but Jesus' presence also brought out the opposition. What a crowd it was that surrounded Jesus. The Pharisees handed Jesus another teachable moment.

Receives **prosde÷comai prosdechomai, pros-dekh'-om-ahee;** to admit in or to permit in. to intercourse or dialogue with another, to allow.

Eats **sunesqi÷w sunesthio, soon-es-thee'-o;**
to take food in and with a company of others. to set at ease or to become one with another by association.

Jesus Christ Cannot Be Threatened

Philippians 2:6-7

Who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

He Sees Us as We Really Are

Matthew 9:35-36

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.

THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

1.) We are God's concern

v.4

WE ARE GOD'S CONCERN

1a.) His concern for us is assumed

v.4a

"What man of you,

His Audience is Jewish

Ezekiel 34:5-6

So they were scattered because there was no shepherd; and they became food for all the beasts of the field when they were scattered. 6 My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and on every high hill; yes, My flock was scattered over the whole face of the earth, and no one was seeking or searching for them."

Sheep are Interesting Animals.

The first thing to grasp is the significance of the fact that our Lord chose a sheep and not a pig, cow, or dog.
And it was a lost sheep!

Sheep do not leave or run away.

You will never see a sheep run from his peeps or his shepherd. Sheep wander, roam and drift away slowly.

Sheep are not known for being smart.

When they become startled they quickly become overwhelmed and when they are overwhelmed they tend to just fold & collapse under pressure. Its then the enemy simply begins to slowly tear them apart; foot, an ear, a leg, until it's eventually consumed.

Sheep have no defenses, no claws, or fangs, no mean bite.

(In Fact They Cannot Live Without Human Care)

The Existence of Sheep Defy Evolution.

As we humans are 100% dependent upon God, so a sheep is 100% dependent upon the human for survival.

Now, I know a little bit about sheep. When I worked

for a medical research group, a global corporation, we developed critical care devices. Some of those inventions required "live studies" or "animal studies", and we would have to use sheep. **The physiology of sheep in many ways resembles that of a human being.**

Sheep do not eat right when they are alone & isolated.

Sheep Must Be Tended To.

They must be inspected for parasites:

Insects will look for wounds and openings and infect the site until infection attacks the sheep's blood or brain functions.

They must be sheared:

Their wool will grow to the point that they will overheat and die of stroke.

They will become unstable:

They become very unsure, falling over, even falling down a hill or ridge.

They will eventually be unable to walk:

This will lead to dangers

Finally, they come to the point:

That in the evening when they lay down, the dew or rain falls on them and they cannot get up, becoming subject to die in the bed they made.

Isaiah 53:5-6

But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

WE ARE GOD'S CONCERN

1b.) His concern for us is unquestionable

v.4b

"having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness

What do we know about this parable?

We know that Jesus is communicating to us that a shepherd cares about his sheep individually. **Down to the number. (Is God exaggerating?)**

Theology is not only the Study of God it is the Study of His Nature and Person.

Numbers mean nothing to God – Truth Does Not Change

Ezekiel 34:6

My sheep wandered through all the mountains, and on every high hill; yes, My flock was scattered over the whole face of the earth, and no one was seeking or searching for them."

Jesus Came Looking for Us

Philippians 2:8

And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

John 3:16a

For God so loved the world that He **gave** *(to come)* His only begotten Son,

WE ARE GOD'S CONCERN

1c.) His concern for us is immeasurable

v.4c

and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?

Honestly, this makes no human sense to me.

What is more valuable, a sheep or the shepherd? The shepherd! Without a shepherd you cannot have sheep.

We talk a lot about Grace and so We Should.

2 Timothy 2:1

You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

Titus 2:11

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men,

God's Grace is What Makes Us Favorable. His "Favor" is Limitless.

Psalm 139:1-18

O LORD, You have searched me and known me. 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. 3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. 4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. 5 You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it. 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You. 13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them. 17 How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! 18 If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.

>>> The Cross, The Christ, The Call <<<

————— *End of Study* —————

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