

# THE LOST: SHEEP. COIN. SON. SON. PART I

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Luke 15

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# BAD NEWS, WORSE NEWS, AND GOOD NEWS

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- Bad news: Another sermon on the prodigal son
- Worse news: It's 2 weeks
- Good News: God's word will accomplish what he pleases

## Jesus as a Theologian

- “A *parable* is an extended metaphor and as such it is **not** a delivery system for an idea but a house in which the reader/listener is invited to take up residence.” -- Kenneth Bailey

# LUKE 15

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(Luke 15:1-3)

All the tax collectors and sinners were approaching to listen to him. And the Pharisees and scribes were complaining, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable:



# LUKE 15

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(Luke 15:4-6)

“What man among you, who has a hundred sheep and loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open field and go after the lost one until he finds it? When he has found it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders, and coming home, he calls his friends and neighbors together, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, because I have found my lost sheep!’



# LUKE 15

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(Luke 15:7-8)

I tell you, in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who don't need repentance. "Or what woman who has ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?"



# LUKE 15

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(Luke 15:9-10)

When she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, because I have found the silver coin I lost!' I tell you, in the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who repents."



# LUKE 15

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(Luke 15:11-13)

He also said: “A man had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the estate I have coming to me.’ So he distributed the assets to them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered together all he had and traveled to a distant country, where he squandered his estate in foolish living.



# INTRODUCTIONS AND CONTEXT

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(Luke 15:1-3)

All the **tax collectors** and **sinners** were approaching to listen to **him**. And the **Pharisees and scribes** were complaining, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable:

- Characters

# INTRODUCTIONS AND CONTEXT

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(Luke 15:1-3)

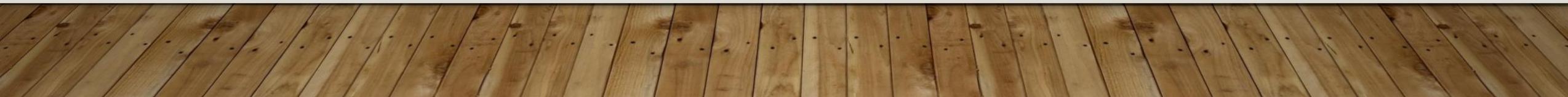
All the **tax collectors** and **sinners** were approaching to listen to **him**. And the **Pharisees and scribes** were complaining, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable:

- Characters

- Opening question

What did they say when you asked them?

- Response



# THE SHEPHERD AND THE SHEEP

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(Luke 15:4-5)

“What man among **you**, who has a hundred sheep and **loses one of them**, does not **leave** the ninety-nine in the open field and go after the lost one until he finds it? When he has found it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders,

Shepherd Imagery



# THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

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(Psalm 23)

The **Lord** is my shepherd; I have what I need. **He** lets me lie down in green pastures; **he** leads me beside quiet waters. **He** renews my life; **he** leads me along the right paths for **his name's sake**. Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, for **you** are with me;

(The not-me version)



# THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

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(Psalm 23)

**your** rod and **your** staff—they comfort me. **You** prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; **you** anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of **the Lord** as long as I live.

(The not-me version)



# THE SHEPHERD AND THE SHEEP

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(Luke 15:4-5)

“What man among **you**, who has a hundred sheep and **loses one of them**, does not **leave** the ninety-nine in the open field and go after the lost one until he finds it? When he has found it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders,

Shepherd Imagery

Offensiveness

	Shepherd/Sheep
Jesus	Good Shepherd
Tax collectors/sinners	
Pharisees/scribes	?

# THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY SHEPHERD

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(Jeremiah 23:1-2)

“Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” This is the Lord’s declaration.  
“Therefore, this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds who tend my people: You have scattered my flock, banished them, and have not attended to them. I am about to attend to you because of your evil acts”—this is the Lord’s declaration

# THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY SHEPHERD

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(Jeremiah 23:3-4)

“I will gather the remnant of my flock from all the lands where I have banished them, and I will return them to their grazing land. They will become fruitful and numerous. I will raise up shepherds over them who will tend them. They will no longer be afraid or discouraged, nor will any be missing.” This is the Lord’s declaration.



# THE SHEPHERD AND THE SHEEP

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(Luke 15:4-5)

“What man among **you**, who has a hundred sheep and **loses one of them**, does not **leave** the ninety-nine in the open field and go after the lost one until he finds it? When he has found it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders,

Shepherd Imagery

Offensiveness

The Sheep

	Shepherd/Sheep
Jesus	Good Shepherd
Tax collectors/sinners	
Pharisees/scribes	Bad Shepherds

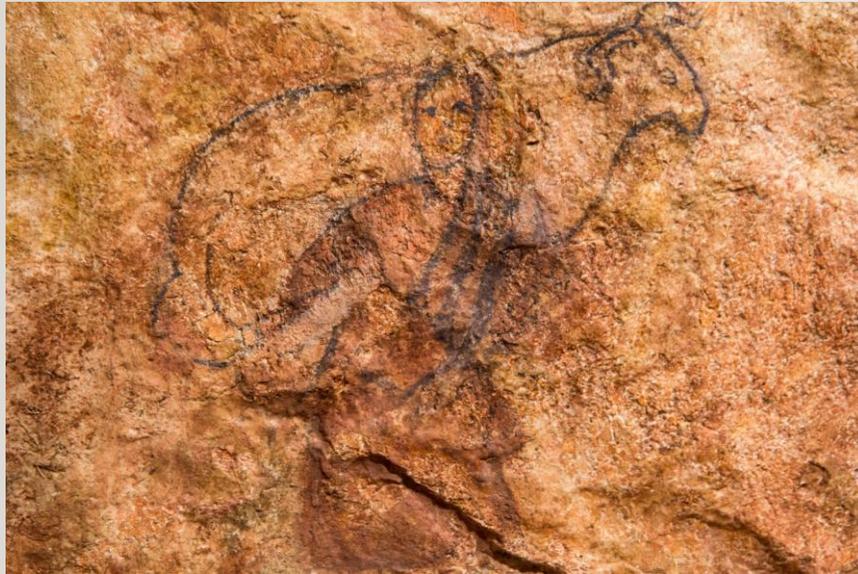
# IMPORTANCE TO THE EARLY CHURCH

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Graeco-Roman Museum in Alexandria, Egypt (<3<sup>rd</sup> century)

Dura-Europos, Syria (~240AD) One of the earliest known church buildings



# WHY EAT WITH SINNERS AND TAX COLLECTORS?

(Luke 15:6-7)

and coming home, he calls his friends and neighbors together, saying to them, **‘Rejoice with me, because I have found my lost sheep!’** I tell you, in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who don’t need repentance.

To Rejoice!

	Shepherd/Sheep
Jesus	Good Shepherd
Tax collectors/sinners	Found Sheep
Pharisees/scribes	Bad Shepherd

# THE WOMAN AND THE COIN

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(Luke 15:8)

“Or what woman who has ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?”

She paid the price

Offensiveness

The coin

	<b>Shepherd/Sheep</b>	<b>Woman/Coin</b>
Jesus	Good Shepherd	Woman
Tax collectors/sinners	Found sheep	
Pharisees/scribes	Bad Shepherd	

# WHY EAT WITH SINNERS AND TAX COLLECTORS?

(Luke 15:9-10)

When she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, **‘Rejoice with me, because I have found the silver coin I lost!’** I tell you, in the same way, there is joy in the presence of God’s angels over one sinner who repents.”

To Rejoice!

Friends and neighbors

	<b>Shepherd/Sheep</b>	<b>Woman/Coin</b>
Jesus	Good Shepherd	Woman
Tax collectors/sinners	Found Sheep	Found Coin
Pharisees/scribes	Bad Shepherd	?

# WHO IS CENTER OF THE PARTY?

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(Luke 15:6)

‘Rejoice with **me**, because **I** have found my lost sheep!’

It's about Jesus

# WHAT THEMES ARE THERE?

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(Luke 15:7)

I tell you, in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who don't need **repentance**.

(Luke 15:9-10)

I tell you, in the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who **repents**.”

Humility

Grace



# PUTTING IT ON OUR SHOULDERS AND COMING HOME...

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- “What did they say when you asked them?”
- What are you and I making about us, that we should be making about God?
- Repentance, Humility, and Grace (Ephesians 2:8-9)

For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God’s gift— not from works, so that no one can boast.