Jesus And The Lost

Ken Chapman · Luke 15:1–32

INTRODUCTION

- Losing something is an emotional experience, isn't it?
- Jesus told three stories in Luke chapter 15 about things that were lost.
- Jesus has already made it abundantly clear that he cares about lost people.

1 Heaven's Deep Care and Love for the Lost

Romans 5:6–10

- Let's personalize these stories. I am that lost sheep.
- But don't let the magnitude, the absolute globally impactful event of the cross cause you to lose sight that he did that for you.
- But God demonstrates his own love toward us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- If that was the price that was paid while we were his enemies, there is absolutely no way to measure the love he has for us now that we're his children.
- It all begins and ends with how much do we care.

2 Exuberant Joy in Heaven When One Soul Is Saved

Luke 15:6–7; Luke 15:9–10; Revelation 5:6–12

- All three of these parables show the exuberant joy in heaven when one soul is saved.
- There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 just persons who need no repentance.
- For this my son was dead and is alive again.
- When one lost soul is found, that heaven notices, and heaven pauses to break out in exuberant joy.
- To heaven we're not a plastic fork that has been lost. That to heaven we're the most valuable object.
- And we need to have that attitude as well.

3 The Elder Brother's View of the Lost

Luke 15:1–3; Luke 15:25–32

- But then there's the elder brother, who may in reality be the main character of the story. The elder brother who never left.
- And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receives sinners and eats with them.
- In this third story, that elder brother obviously represented those scribes and Pharisees, didn't it?
- It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again and was lost and is found.

THE CHALLENGE

Are we willing to expend the effort, the energy, and sometimes the awkwardness that comes with personal evangelism that comes with sheep and coins and children coming back to God. If we have an ounce of our Father's love, we will.

MY NOTES