



THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE BEAUTIFUL

•Luke 15

THE TRILOGY OF “LOST & FOUND”

“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”
Luke 19:10.

Enter the scene...

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

Then Jesus told them this parable: “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ I tell you that in the same way there will be *more rejoicing in heaven* over one sinner who ~~repents~~ than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

All we like sheep...





FRAGILE
HANDLE WITH CARE



LOST & FOUND

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own
way

If you are lost, Jesus is calling you, even if you are 1 in 100

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down his
life for his sheep

Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she **light a lamp**, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, '**Rejoice with me**; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is **rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God** over one sinner who **repents**.

What if I had been born into another family...

identity

opportunities

experiences

relationship

financial situation

values and

beliefs

LOST & FOUND Part II

There's only one thing worse than living lost...

What's worse is **living lost when no one is trying to find you.** *David Platt*

"You are **the light of the world**. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl.

Instead they **put it on its stand**, and it **gives light to everyone in the house.**" *Matt 5:14-16*

Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

“Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for **a distant country** and there **squandered** his wealth in wild living.

After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to **feed pigs**. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

The GOOD FATHER

"But my people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me. So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts to follow their own devices" Psalm 81:11-12

The sad fact is that sometimes God gives us what we want.

consequenc
es

God does not allow His
children to sin
successfully ~Charles

Spurgeon

To walk out of God's will is to
step into nowhere.

C. S. Lewis

Freedom From or Freedom For?

When he **came to his senses**, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! **I will** set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’

So he got up and went to his father.

ἔρχομαι (erchomai, to come)

εἰς ἑαυτόν, **to come to one's senses, return to a healthy state of mind**

ἔρχεσθαι ἐπὶ τινά **to come upon one, of the Holy Spirit**

As soon as Jesus emerged from the water, the heavens opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon him (Matt 3:16)

And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying (Acts 19:6)

Repentance is the work of *the Holy*

The Holy Spirit convicts individuals to recognize their sin and
turn back to God-

"coming to one's senses"

responsible for one's actions recognize the error of one's ways
resolve to turn away from sin return to and reconcile with God

"The Puritans called repentance 'the twin sister of faith.'
They go together in a genuine salvation experience."

Douglas Kelly

“But while he was still a *long* way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

‘The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son...’

But the father said to his servants, 'Quick!

Bring the best robe and put it on him.

Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.

Bring the fattened calf and kill it.

Let's have a feast and celebrate.

For this son of mine

was dead and is alive again;
he was lost and is found.'

So they began to celebrate.

LOST & FOUND Part III

It's a portrait of redemption, an act of letting go of your own pride in order to restore someone else's honour, and an undeniable testament to unconditional love. ~Eitan Bar

No
judgment

No
preaching

No “I told
you so”

“Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

“The older brother became **angry** and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, ‘**Look!** All these years I’ve been **slaving for you** and **never disobeyed** your orders. Yet you **never** gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when **this son of yours** who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

“ ‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ ”

People who are moral and legalistic without love
can just be as lost as the rebellious!

The GOOD



The BAD

The BEAUTIFUL
The UGLY

The Beautiful God

I once was lost, but now am
found

Love **+ Forgiveness + Restoration**
seeks reconcile heals
s



Father's Day Blessings

*The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine on you
... and give you peace.*

- Numbers 6:24-26
