

The Lost

Luke 15

1

The Lost Sheep

Verses 3-7

2

Lost Through **Carelessness** – The Lost Sheep, Verses 3-7

Thoughtlessness.

- The figure of the shepherd, sheep, and sheepfold found many times in the scriptures. Isaiah 53:6ff; John 10:1ff; Acts 20:28; etc.
- Hebrews 2:1. cf. Matthew 9: 36, a picture of a multitude that had no real purpose in life.

3

Lost Through **Carelessness** – The Lost Sheep, Verses 3-7

Absorption in other matters.

- Life. Luke 14:15-24
 - **Pay attention to the most important things.**

4

Lost Through **Carelessness** – The Lost Sheep, Verses 3-7

Lack of knowledge, spiritual interest and diligence.

- "Give diligence" 2 Timothy 2:15; Hebrews 4:11
- "Take heed." cf. 1 Corinthians 10:12; Hebrews 3:12
- Failure to do this means we are lost. cf. Hosea 4:6; Acts 17:30.

5

The Lost Coin

Verses 8-10

6

Lost Through **Uselessness** – The Lost Coin. Verses 8-10

This coin was of no value because it was "out of circulation."

- Many have changed from useful vessels to useless vessels, from vessels of honor to vessels dishonor. (2 Timothy 2:20-22)
- Uselessness means: loss of zeal for the Lord, loss of concern for others, and loss of influence. (Matthew 5:13-14)
- The useless member is the one who has quit. (Luke 9:62)

7

The Prodigal Son

Verses 11-24

8

Lost Through **Willfulness** – The Prodigal Son. Verses 11-24

The Prodigal Son was lost willfully.

- He willfully asked for his inheritance.
- He willfully went into the far country.
- He willfully wasted his substance with riotous living.

9

Lost Through **Willfulness** – The Prodigal Son. Verses 11-24

The Prodigal Son was lost willfully.

- Exaltation of my will and a desecration of God's will. Romans 1:18-32; Hebrews 10:26-31
- Rebellion and defiance of authority. Absalom – 2 Samuel 15-18

10

The Elder Brother

Verses 25-32

11

Lost Through **Bitterness** – The Elder Brother. Verses 25-32

Self Commendation –

He was never guilty of the immoralities of his brother.

1. He had stayed in his father's house.
2. He had served his father. **"Lo, these many years do I serve thee."**
3. Guilty of Pride, Arrogance, Self-righteousness. **"I never transgressed a commandment, of thine."**

12

Lost Through **Bitterness** – The Elder Brother. Verses 25-32

Self Commendation –

- Lost because of his wrong attitude toward his brother. *“This **THY** son” not This **“MY”** brother.*
 - He was angry, jealous, and had no sympathy for his brother.
- The father recognizes the elder son's faithfulness (*“you are always with me”*)
- He reassures the son that the remaining inheritance is his (*“all that I have is yours”*)

13

Lost Through **Bitterness** – The Elder Brother. Verses 25-32

- Bitterness to be put away. Ephesians 4:32ff
- Love for brethren is abundantly and plainly taught. John 13:34
- The elder brother represents the Pharisees and scribes (Luke 15:1) who stood condemned because they *“trusted in themselves that they were righteous; and set all others at nought” (Luke 18:9).*

14

The Lost

The Lost Sheep – **Careless**. Verses 3-7

The Lost Coin – **Useless**. Verses 8-10

The Prodigal Son – **Willful**. Verses 11-24

The Elder Brother – **Bitter**. Verses 25-32

15