

We will now begin the fourteenth lecture on the gospel of Luke. /Today we will begin with Luke chapter 15. /There are three parables in chapter 15. /Verses 1-7 /tell about the parable of the lost sheep.

/Jesus welcomed sinners /and when the Pharisees saw Jesus eating with them, they slandered Jesus. /The Pharisees thought that they were righteous. /Hence, they condemned tax collectors and sinners, and stayed far away from them.

/However, Jesus said that He did not come to call the righteous, but the sinners. /Thus, Jesus spoke to the Pharisees through parables, /and the first parable was the parable of the lost sheep.

/Jesus spoke. /If a shepherd had a hundred sheep /and he lost one of them, /wouldn't he leave the ninety-nine sheep /and go look for the one lost sheep?

/In verse 7, /the "ninety-nine" sheep refers to ninety-nine righteous men. /They are those who believe in Jesus. /The true shepherd had compassion on the lost sheep and loved the sheep. /Thus, he went out to look for the lost sheep.

/When the shepherd found the lost sheep, /he would joyfully return. /In this way, Jesus rejoices when one sinner repents. /What does the lost sheep signify?

/First, it is the chosen believer who has not yet returned to God. /Second, it is the person who once believed in Jesus but then became corrupted. /Third, it is the person who attends church /but has left God in his heart /and abandoned God's word.

/Jesus wants us to turn away from sins. /Jesus wants us to run into His arms. /Therefore, we must repent every day and return to our Father.

/In verses 8-10, /Jesus told the parable of the lost coin. /The drachma is a silver coin used in Greece. /It is about one denarius /in Roman currency. /One drachma was worth about one day's wages.

/The spiritual meaning in this is that it refers to the works of the born again spirit. /To have lost a drachma /means that believers lost the works of their born again spirits. /When the woman lost the money, she lit her lamp and swept her house looking for it. /The "lamp" here is the light of God's word. /Psalm 119:105 says, /"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path."

/When we lose the new works of life that take place when we live by our reborn spirits, /we must shine the light of God's word and find it. /It says here that the woman swept her house to find it, /and this means that she repented.

/This means to repent of the filthy things in our hearts. /Just as the woman swept away the dust in her house, /we can find the drachma when we repent of the filthy sins in our hearts. /When we find the lost coin, /we will be joyful beyond words /and rejoice with our

neighbors.

/When we lose our drachma, we will be frustrated in our hearts. /We will lose grace and be distressed, /and we will become lazy.

/However, when we repent and find the world of our reborn spirits again, /we will be joyful /and we will sing praises and give thanks. /Then other believers will rejoice with us. /We will then want to share this joy with others.

/In verse 10, /it says that when the woman found her lost drachma, /it was not God who was happy, /but the angels of God. /The reason is that /this was told with the focus on the woman who found the drachma. /She found the drachma /and she was joyful /before God and before God's angels.

/In verses 11-32, Jesus told the third parable. /There was a man who had two sons. /His younger son spoke to his father. /"Give me my share of the estate." /The younger son said this /because he wanted to spend his inheritance however he wanted to.

/He wanted to do things his way /and wanted to act according to his greed. /The father gave his sons their inheritance. /The father let his sons do as they wanted. /The younger son soon took all that he had /and left to a distant country.

/The younger son went far away /because he did not want his father to interfere in his life. /He wanted to spend his money however he wanted to /and live as he wanted. /Whoever lives in the flesh and with greed /will live in debauchery.

/Then he will lose all his wealth. /When believers forsake God and live as they please, /do not receive God's interference, /and do not obey God's word, /they will lose all the inheritance that God gave them.

/Their spirits will become poor /and they will live like lowly pigs. /They will live dissolutely until they lose everything they have. /It says that the younger son began to be in need. /He lost all his inheritance.

/Then there was a severe famine. /The son had nothing to eat /and became poor. /His friends did not help him.

/In verse 15, it says that everyone was in need /and no one fed him. /Thus, the son went to a house and worked there by feeding the pigs. /The son of a wealthy man /lived like pigs.

/There was a famine and there was nothing to eat /and the son was hungry, /and hence, he had no choice but to eat the pods that the pigs ate. /Pods /are a type of fruit from Palestine. /They are about ten centimeters in height. /The fruit are about 15-20 centimeters long. /This was used as feed for livestock.

/What does it mean to eat the pods that the pigs were eating? /This means that whoever

leaves God the Father to live according to his own desires /will live in a place that is not suitable for people to live in.

/God's children will eat pigs' food. /Unfaithfulness, possessions and honor /are all like the pods. /God's people must eat God's word.

/We will have happiness and rest when we dwell in our Father's home. /When a believer leaves his Father's home /and goes out into the world, /he will not be full /or satisfied /even if he attends church /because he will be still be eating the pods. /He will read the Bible but there will not be works of life. /He will pray but it will only be a formality. /He will live like a beast.

/In verse 17, it says that the son came to his senses. /He did not receive his father's interference and lived as he pleased, /but that was temporary. /He soon began to live a pitiful life. /Thus, he thought of his father and his father's home.

/His father's interference was wisdom. /The son realized that it was truly a blessing to live in his father's house. /When God's people live by the greed of their flesh, they will be ruined. /God interferes in our lives, /sometimes disciplines us, /and punishes us /so that we would not live by the greed of our flesh.

/Living by the flesh may seem good /but the spirit will die. /The results are pitiful. /This happened to Eve. /She saw the fruit of good and evil /and saw that it was attractive /and it would make her wise, /but the result was shameful and pitiful. /The result was death.

/When we live in our Father's house, /it may seem physically difficult. /However, that is eternal life. /Our true happiness is there. /The prodigal son thought of the servants in his father's house.

/The son thought of the good life his father's hired men had. /He thought about his lowly and needy self. /When believers leave the arms of the Father, /their spirits will become miserable.

/The prodigal son decided to return to his father's house. /He realized that he sinned greatly against his father and against God. /He decided to confess to his father /and beg to be like one of the hired men. /The son became humble because he wanted to be one of the hired men. /This was the attitude of a man who sincerely repented.

/When the younger son left, /the father waited for the day when his son would return. /Then one day, he saw his son coming home. /The father ran to his son with a joyful heart. /The father hugged his son and kissed him and received him. /Our Father God's love is like this.

/The prodigal son sincerely repented. /The son said, /"Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." /He asked if he could be one of the hired men. /The son said that he was no longer worthy to call his

father, "Father."

/He said that he would be thankful if he was made one of the hired men. /He said he was thankful just to be with his father again. /This was the fruit of true repentance. /The father gave the best things to his son.

/The father gave his son the best clothes. /He gave him a ring. /He gave him sandals for his feet. /Then he said to kill a fattened cow and have a feast and celebrate. /The father was joyful /because his son was dead and was alive again, /and he was lost and was now found.

/God receives those who truly repent and return to him. /God gives them unending grace and blessings. /The father gave his son the best robe, /which spiritually means that he gave him the robe of redemption.

/The ring /signifies glory. /The sandals /signify the sandals of the gospel. /The fattened cow /is participation in the grace of Christ's redemption. /This is to eat the flesh and blood of Christ.

/Then the older son returned from the field. /The older son did well in living with his father. /It was noble of him to go work in the field every day. /When he came near the house, he heard that his younger brother had returned.

/The older son was not happy, /but became angry and refused to go into the house. /He should not have done this. /He did not love his brother who repented and returned home. /Instead, he became angry. /He did wrong here. /There were a few things that the older son did wrong.

/First, he was self-centered. /If he thought from his father's point of view, /he would have been happy that his brother returned home. /However, the older son did not rejoice like his father. /Rather, he became angry. /Then he made his father concerned.

/Second, the older son /was arrogant /because he did not think of his own faults. /He told his father that he /"never disobeyed your orders." /The older son did well in staying with his father and living with him.

/However, did he really never disobey his father's orders? /He certainly must have disobeyed his father at one point or another. /We too must not only think of the good things we did before God, /but repent of our shortcomings /and be humble.

/Even if we do good, /we must not think that we did it on our own. /We must know that everything happens by God's grace /and we must thank God.

/Third, the older son's heart /was centered on materials and on the world. /He considered his brother's inheritance wasteful. /He said, "you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends." /This shows that his heart was centered in materials.

/Fourth, the older son did not know how to give thanks. /Fifth, the older son did not truly love his younger brother. /Sixth, he had no intention of fulfilling his filial duties. /He did not even respect his father.

/The prodigal son lost all his inheritance, /but he repented and truly respected his father. /Thus, the prodigal son made his father happy. /However, the older son did not respect his father, /but made the mistakes that we just previously mentioned. /Here, we must think whether or not /we are like the older son.

/Chapter 16 /is about many teachings. /First, in verses 1-13, /Jesus spoke about the parable of the shrewd manager. /Jesus taught the valuable truth through the parable of the shrewd manager. /The rich man here in God.

/The manager is the believers. /A manager /manages a house. /A manager manages and takes care of his master's fortune or servants. /Everything we have does not belong to us. /It all belongs to God.

/That is why we must use the things that were entrusted to us according to God's will. /It is wrong to take God's things /and use it for us. /This is to waste the master's possessions. /Then the master said, "Give an account of your management."

/The account of his management indicates a settlement of accounts. /This meant that the manager was to leave his position. /He was to leave his master's house. /There are times when believers leave the things of the world. /This was like the command to leave the world.

/There is no one who does not sin against God. /There is no one who will not leave this world. /We live as God's managers in this world. /We must soon leave our positions as managers.

/We must leave this world. /When the unjust manager /left his position, he thought about what he should do from there. /He did not have the strength to dig /and he was ashamed to beg, /and he began to worry. /He thought about how he could make a living.

/He finally came up with one way. /The manager still looked after his master's possessions. /Thus, he decided to take his master's possessions and do a kind deed. /He thought that if he showed kindness to others, /he would be welcomed to their homes /after he lost his job.

/Thus, the manager called his master's debtors /and decided to write off their debts. /He put his idea into action. /The manager called his master's debtors. /He wrote off their debts, /and to the man who owed eight hundred gallons of olive oil, /he made it four hundred gallons. /He canceled half his debt.

/To the man who owed a thousand bushels of wheat /he made it eight hundred. /He

canceled two hundred bushels. /The manager did this /so that his master would face a loss. /However, the manager was commended /after he lost his job.

/What does this mean? /When we believers help others with our possessions /and use it for God, /we will face a loss in our possessions, /but it will be a benefit for us in the future.

/While we are in this world, /we can do whatever we want with our possessions. /We can help others. /We can use it to prepare for the future. /However, there will be a time when we must lay down our jobs as managers.

/There will come a time when we will leave this world. /At that time, we must leave all our possessions behind. /We cannot take even a little bit of it. /At that time, there will be nothing we can do.

/Therefore, managers must take the possessions they currently have /and become friends with Jesus, our friend. /We must be wise /so that we could receive rewards in heaven. /Jesus commended the manager /for what he did.

/The manager did not do what was right. /Thus, Jesus called him a shrewd manager. /However, because he was wise in the way he worked, the Lord complimented him. /The “people of the world” are the unbelievers.

/The “people of the light” are the chosen believers. /The “own kind” is the world. /The people of the world /will be wiser than the people of the light /in their generation, in the generation of the unbelievers. /We, the people of the light, are not wise in this world.

/This is because /we, the people of the light, are friends with Jesus, /and we use our possessions to prepare for the future. /We face losses in this world. /The wealth spoken of here is /inheritance, /environment, /time, /health, /body, /and life.

/In this way, believers faced many losses /in this world /as they prepare for the future. /Therefore, the people of the world /think that believers are foolish.

/Read verse 9. /I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

/All of people’s possessions are /worldly wealth. /The things of the heavens and the earth belong to God, /but people took these as their own, making them worldly.

/Psalm 24:1 says, /“The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, /the world, and all who live in it.” /As God’s managers, /we take care of God’s possessions. /We must use the things God entrusted to us as he commanded.

/When we use God’s possessions for ourselves /and make things for ourselves, /it will become worldly. /To “gain friends” /means to be friends with Jesus. /Before we lose our

jobs as managers, /we must take our worldly wealth /and be friends with Jesus.

/One way to be friends with Jesus /is to use our possessions for the salvation movement, which Jesus is happy with. /When we use our wealth for Jesus, /we will receive rewards from God in heaven.

/Thus, when we give our possessions, /we store up treasures in heaven. /This is to become friends with Jesus through our possessions. /Verse 10 says, “Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much.” /The very little things are wealth.

/We must make friends with people with our possessions /to be trusted with much in the works of the truth. /When we are faithful to little things, /we can be faithful to bigger things.

/In verse 11, /Jesus said that only those who are trustworthy in handling worldly wealth /will be entrusted with true riches by God. /The “true riches” are spiritual things. /This is the fruit of the truth. /This is the spirit that lives. /This is to be like God in his image.

/If we are not faithful with our wealth, /we are not trustworthy. /God will not entrust true riches to us if we are not trustworthy.

/In verse 13, /Jesus said that a servant cannot serve two masters. /Likewise, we cannot serve both wealth and God. /Our wealth belongs to God. /Our master is God. /We must remember this as we serve God /and remain faithful to him.

/In verses 14-18, /Jesus spoke about legalism and evangelism. /The Pharisees loved money. /Hence, they heard what Jesus taught and sneered at Him. /However, God does not look at the appearance, /but looks at the heart.

/When we justify ourselves in the eyes of men /and receive honor, /we will be detestable in God’s eyes. /When we try to be praised by people, /we become hypocritical /and envy and become jealous of others. /Then we will be disliked by God.

/In verse 16, /the “Law” is the Law of Moses. /The “Prophets” are the prophetic books. /These are the entire Old Testament books. /The Old Testament period ended with John the Baptist.

/After that began the New Testament period where Christ’s gospel was preached. /The “kingdom of God” here /is the church of the New Testament period. /It is Jesus’ salvation movement in the New Testament times. /From the days of John the Baptist, /the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing.

/In verse 17, /it says that God’s word is greater than all the world. /This is because the heavens and the earth were created by God’s word. /Everything will also be judged by God’s word. /Therefore, even if heaven and earth disappear, /God’s word will never disappear.

/Anyone who divorces his wife with reasons other than what the Bible says is acceptable, /or marries another woman commits adultery. /This went against the seventh commandment.

/In verses 19-31, /Jesus spoke about the rich man and Lazarus. /This was not a parable, but was a true story. /Whoever earns a lot of money /lives in luxury and enjoys to feast.

/The rich man /dressed in fine linen and lived in luxury. /The rich man did several wrong things. /First, he used his wealth to lift himself up /in his heart. /Second, he used his wealth for himself /and feasted and lived in luxury.

/Third, he did not make any friends because of his wealth. /However, Lazarus the beggar /was physically poor and miserable. /Lazarus was poor and was a beggar. /He wanted to eat the food that fell from the rich man's table. /He had no place to go so he stayed at the rich man's gate.

/Lazarus was covered with sores. /No one looked after him. /Even the dogs came and licked his sores. /However, Lazarus kept his faith /even in such circumstances.

/We know this because it says that he was carried to Abraham's side. /Lazarus was not with Abraham because he was poor. /It was because Lazarus had faith.

/Anyone can be at Abraham's side /even if he is rich /if he is poor in heart /and has faith like that of Lazarus. /Whether we are poor or rich, /we must be poor in heart.

/In verse 22, /Lazarus died and was carried to Abraham's side, /and the rich man also died and went to hell. /We can see that Lazarus believed in Jesus /and the rich man did not believe.

/Lazarus was in great pain when he was alive, /but after he died he drank the water of life /and gained much joy and satisfaction. /However, after the rich man died, he went to hell /and faced great pain.

/When the rich man was in torment in hell, /he looked up at Abraham and called to him. /He said, "Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water /and cool my tongue." /When the rich man was alive, he lived in luxury and loved to feast.

/He did not prepare for the afterlife. /However, Lazarus encountered great pain in the world /but he prepare for the afterlife /with faith, /and hence, he was comforted in heaven. /Everyone reaps what they sow.

/In verse 26, Abraham said that there was a great chasm between heaven and hell, so that no one could cross over. /People in heaven cannot go to hell. /People in hell cannot ever go to heaven.

/Therefore, if we do not prepare for heaven /while we are here in this world, /we will have no more opportunities after we die. /The rich man realized this /and asked Abraham to send Lazarus to his five brothers /and evangelize to them.

/However, Abraham said that there was no need for the dead to go back to the world. /Abraham said that they could listen to Moses and the Prophets. /“Moses and the Prophets” /is the Old Testament Bible, /or God’s Word.

/This is the gospel. /The rich man thought that his brothers would repent and believe /if the dead Lazarus went back to the world and testified.

/However, the Bible says that /those who hear but do not listen to those who preach the gospel /will not believe even if someone rises from the dead to tell them about the gospel. /Therefore, we can see how important it is to preach to the gospel.

/There is more power when we evangelize, than for the dead to come to life and preach. / Those who hear God’s word and receive it will be blessed.

/Here we will conclude the fourteenth lecture on Luke. /Thank you.