

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

## LUKE CHAPTER 15:25-32

TAPE NUMBER SM-65 SEPTEMBER 14, 2008

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### CHRISTIAN, COME HOME

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,  
THE SON OF GOD AND THE SON OF MAN*

## Part Four

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Value, Worth, Salvation, Forgiveness, Repentance

Introduction to the Text; **Luke 15:25-32**

The Theme and Textual Summation of the Passage

## CHRISTIAN COME HOME GRACE AWAITS YOU

Luke 15:25-32

“Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. :26 So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. :27 And he said to him, “Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’ :28 “But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. :29 So he answered and said to *his* father, “Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends...

:30 But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’ :31 “And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. :32 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.’ ”

# CHRISTIAN COME HOME GRACE AWAITS YOU

2Timothy 2:13

If we are faithless, He remains faithful;  
He cannot deny Himself.

Yes, there are some things impossible for God to Do.  
He cannot **lie**, He cannot **sin**, and He cannot **deny** Himself.

That is His **Character, Attributes & Prerogatives**  
**AND GRACE IS ONE OF GOD'S FAVORITE PREROGATIVES**

## GRACE

χάρις charis, *khar'-ece*; God's divine influence upon the heart, divine acceptable, divine benefits, divine favor, to gift.

## CHRISTIAN COME HOME / GRACE AWAITS YOU

1.) What makes grace so **Real**?

v.25-27

It's been that the Meaning of the Word Grace  
Can be remembered by an Acronym

**God's Riches At Christ's Expense**

## WHAT MAKES GRACE SO REAL?

1a.) What is grace?

### Verse 25

"Now his older son was in the field. And as he **came and drew near**  
to the house, he heard **music and dancing**."

He **heard music** and he **heard dancing...**

**Can you imagine with me - the look on his face.**

Curiosity, intrigue, confusion,  
did he check his sundial to see if he had missed a special date or time?

**At first;**

it was the sound of music coming from the direction of the house.

**Second;**

He could hear the sounds merriment, orders being given, servants preparing.

**Finally;**

He begins to smile and perhaps even make some assumption

This young man is going to come to the conclusion that it all this should have been for him and not his boneheaded loser brother.

This is real “life-stuff” here

## GRACE

χάρις charis, *khar'-ece*; God's “**un-earnable**” divine influence upon the heart, His “**un-earnable**” acceptable, His “**un-earnable**” benefits, “**Un-earnable**” favor His “**un-earnable**” gift.

### John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, **full of grace** and truth.

### John 1:17

For the law was given through Moses,  
*but* **grace** and truth came through Jesus Christ.

### Acts 4:33

And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus.  
And **great grace** was upon them all.

## WHAT MAKES GRACE SO REAL?

1b.) **Why** is grace necessary?

### Verse 26b-27a

...So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.  
:27 And he said to him, “Your brother has come home !!!!”

**You can almost hear the delight in the servants’ voice;**

“Hey, I bet you’re glad to know that your crazy brother made it back alive”

**“What an Embarrassment to This Family”**

### Romans 3:23-24

For **all have sinned** and fall short of the glory of God, :24 **being justified freely by His grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

## Romans 5:2

Through Jesus Christ also we have access by faith into **this grace in which we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

## WHAT MAKES GRACE SO REAL ?

### 1c.) **Where** can I get grace?

#### Verse 27b

...and because he has received him **safe and sound**,  
Your father has killed the fatted calf.'

The Grace of God had presented the Boy Back.

### **But Where Can Grace be Had?**

## Romans 5:20b

...where sin abounds, grace abounds much more,

Wherever there is brokenness from "sin-awareness"  
Whenever a soul is devastated from "sin-action"

## Hebrews 4:15-16

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin. :16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

## CHRISTIAN COME HOME / GRACE AWAITS YOU

### 2.) **What makes grace so Powerful?** v.28-30

## CHRISTIAN COME HOME / GRACE AWAITS YOU

### **Listen, Watch and Notice;**

Who has done all the work, who has put forth all the effort, who is being misunderstood, who is paying for it all ?

## WHAT MAKES GRACE SO POWERFUL?

### 2a.) **Grace is a prerogative** of God

#### Verse 28

:28 "But he (the older son) was **angry** and would not go in.

Therefore his father **came out and pleaded** with him.

### **Angry**

To be rising or swelling; to move upward. A growing temper.  
Rage based upon a perceived injustice. = having a hot disagreement

**...and he would not go in.**

jaw set, eyes ablaze, heels dug in!

**I Don't Approve, I am not in Agreement. No One Asked Me...**

## **The Danger of Rejecting God's Grace**

### **Acts 7:51**

*"You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you.*

You don't have walk out of church to be far from God – your heart can be a thousand miles from God right here, right now.

This Older Brother was still on the Farm  
and didn't know His fathers heart.

**Going to Church Doesn't Make You Christian,  
Just Like Going to the Fair Doesn't Make You a Fairy.**

### **Oh, I wish I were an Oscar Mayer Wiener**

That is what I truly want to be 'Cause if I were an Oscar Mayer wiener  
Everyone would be in love with me.

But I'm a Lutheran / I'm a Catholic / Hello "Baptist" Right Here.  
I Go to Calvary Chapel – Who Cares?

### **John 10:27**

**My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.**

Pride, Self-Righteousness, Arrogance  
All adds to the subtitle, deadly poison of Religious Superiority.

Translation? - - **Legalism**

God Loves to **Bestow** Grace. He Loves It!

**WHAT MAKES GRACE SO POWERFUL?**

## 2b.) Grace is **powered** by His blood

### WHAT MAKES GRACE SO POWERFUL?

#### Verse 29

So he answered and said to *his* father, “Behold, these many years **I have** been serving you; **I never** transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat that **I might** make merry with my friends.

#### “Legalism is Dangerous Hypocrisy.

Because it’s unconverted & has no power to fight off temptation, it actually **lusts** for the things it **condemns**.”

#### Don’t Get Me Wrong - This Older Son Was a Good Man,

He was moral, ethical, hardworking, industrious, faithful, and loyal.

All These Things Are Great “Character” Qualities;

#### But None of These Great Things Can Get You To Heaven

The Effect of Grace Laid within **The Power the Blood** of Christ.

**Not a Sinners Performance Even as a Believer!**

#### Galatians 2:20-3:3

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. :21 I do not set aside (frustrate) the grace of God; for if righteousness *comes* through the law, then Christ died in vain.” :1 **O foolish**

**Galatians!** Who has **bewitched** you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? :2 This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive **the Spirit**

(a) by the works of the law, or (b) by the hearing of faith? :3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?

“The Danger with Religion Is That  
It masks reality. It creates a psychological & emotional band-aide  
that covers up one’s true condition.”

#### Revelation 3:14-17

To the angel of **the church of the Laodiceans** write, ¶ ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: :15 “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. :16 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

**:17** Because you say, “I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing”— and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—

### Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

## WHAT MAKES GRACE SO POWERFUL?

### 2c.) Grace is a **result** of the Cross

#### Verse 30

But as soon as **this “son of yours”** came, who has devoured your livelihood with **harlots**, you killed the fatted calf for him.’

As **SOON AS** **this “son of yours”** came,  
Who has devoured your livelihood with **harlots**?  
**You** killed the fatted calf for him.’

Now remember who the audience is here;

### Luke 15:1-2a

Then **all** the **tax collectors** and **the sinners** drew near to Him to hear Him. **:2** And the **Pharisees** and **scribes** complained...

### Matthew 7:1-5

“Judge not, that you be not judged. **:2** For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. **:3** And why do you look at the speck in your brother’s eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? **:4** Or how can you say to your brother, “Let me remove the speck from your eye”; and look, a plank *is* in your own eye? **:5** Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

## WHAT MAKES GRACE SO POWERFUL?

### The Cross – **It’s a result of The Cross!**

**Mormon’s** Don’t Have a Cross  
(They’ve struggling to keep the rules)

**Jehovah Witnesses** Don’t Have a Cross  
(They’ve got to knock on doors)

**Muslims** Don’t Have a Cross  
(They afflict themselves)

**The Jews** Have a Cross  
(They Refuse to Look At It)

**None of Them Have Any Assurance of Salvation  
or the Guarantee of Eternal Life.**

The Younger Didn't Recognize His Father's Love  
And The Older Didn't Recognize His Father's Nature

**Rom. 1:16-17**

For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. **:17** For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "*The just shall live by faith.*"

**Colossians 1:20**

for by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, **having made peace through the blood of His cross.**

**1Corinthians 15:1-4**

...I declare to you **the gospel** which **I preached** to you, which also **you received** and in which **you stand**, **:2** and by which also **you are saved**, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. **:3** For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: **that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, :4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,**

The younger son had been far away from his father.  
The older son had been just as far.

They Were The Same – These Two Boys Were the Same in Heart.

**Attention, All Non-Christians – Listen!**

Get to know a real Christian because if you do, you will meet someone who's going to be gracious to you – because they both know & remember...

**CHRISTIAN COME HOME / GRACE AWAITS YOU**

**3.) What makes grace so Valuable? v.31-32**

Here now is The Driving Point to This Parable  
and the other parables in this chapter...

The Dead can live again & the Lost can be found.



## How Far From God Do You Have to Be to Be Lost?

### Luke 15:2

(In the presence of Jesus) the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them." :3 So He spoke this (these) parable(s) to them, saying:

**The Older Son** is The Scribes and Pharisees,  
**The Younger Son** is all those in this world with Christ.

### WHAT MAKES GRACE SO VALUABLE?

3a.) It's what it **cost** God to provide it.

### Verse 31

:31 "And he (the father) said to him,  
'**Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.**

#### Son

τέκνον teknon, tek'-non; my child

### Acts 15:11

But we believe that through **the grace** of the  
Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved

### Ephesians 2:5-9

Even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ  
(**by grace** you have been saved), :6 and raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit  
together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, :7 that in the ages to come He might  
show the exceeding riches of **His grace** in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. :8  
For **by grace** you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the  
gift of God, :9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

### Titus 2:14

who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify  
for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

### Romans 3:24-25

Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, :25  
whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood,

The volume of biblical grace found in a person's life  
is a direct correlation to the volume of sin forgiven!

## When Jesus was at Simon's House for Dinner

### Luke 7:36-39,47-49

Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. :37 And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that *Jesus* sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, :38 and stood at His feet behind *Him* weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped *them* with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed *them* with the fragrant oil. :39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw *this*, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman *this is* who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." ..... :47 Therefore I say to you, her sins, **which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little.** :48 Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." :49 And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

### WHAT MAKES GRACE SO VALUABLE?

3b.) It's what it **does** in my life.

#### Verse 32a

It was **right** that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again...

### WHAT MAKES GRACE SO VALUABLE?

## It was right

Right - δεῖ dei; it appears in the third person here. It was right for him, it was good, needed, necessary for him – it was the best thing for him.

## Isn't God's Timing Perfect?

(divine appointments)

What would have happened if the older brother would have met the younger son before the father did?

### 2Corinthians 8:9

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

You and I will not; cannot, make it to heaven without the grace of God getting us there.

### Acts 13:43

...for they followed Paul and Barnabas, who, speaking to them, **persuaded** them to **continue** in the **grace** of God.

## WHAT MAKES GRACE SO VALUABLE?

3c.) It's what it **means** to us all.

Verse 32b

...and was **lost** and is **found.**' ”

### In Each of the Parables in This Chapter,

Everyone experienced joy and celebration except this older brother – why? Because it was a series of parables designed to expose the hearts of the Pharisees...

All of us need to be very careful that we don't become like a spiritual older brother. Self-impressed, self-confident, self-reliant, self-righteous.

#### Romans 4:3-5

For what does the Scripture say? *“Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.”* :4 Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. :5 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,

#### Matthew 18:11

For the Son of Man has come to **save** that which was lost.

#### Luke 19:10

for the Son of Man has come to **seek** and to **save** that which was lost.”

#### 2Corinthians 4:3-4

But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, :4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Jesus, The Master Communicator, Having Made Man's Heart and Mind  
He knows just how to reach us...

**IT ENDS WITH A QUESTION REALLY;  
What Did The Older Son Do?**

**COME ON JACK**

***How does this relate to me today?***

***Is there sense of class, or status in my life?***

***Or does **grace** define my life?***

***Am I extending **grace** toward those around me?***

***Or does legalism define my life?***

***Do I believe in “**grace**” for all?***

***Or do I practice favoritism or entitlement?***

**Come Forward for Prayer  
or  
Meet Me in The Foyer**

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*End of Study*

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