

Grace, Peace, and **REAL** Mercy be multiplied unto you from Amen.

Welcome to the **GREATEST** of all the “parables” which Jesus ever preached.

And where do you find it in the Bible? In the “Lost Chapter” of the NT!!! ...

This PARABLE and SERMON can be given five [5] titles—and more:

WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?

LOST: TWO SONS

THE PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL SON & HIS UNFORGIVING BROTHER

COME HOME; GO IN

A PARABLE FOR ALL TIMES OF LIFE

LUKE 15:11-31

/ SIN

¹¹ Then Jesus said: “A man had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the property.’ So he divided his property between them.

¹³ “After a few days the younger son gathered everything together, left home for a distant country, and there squandered all he had in wild living. ¹⁴ When he had spent it all, a severe famine came over that country, and he started to be in need. ¹⁵ He went and attached himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed hogs. ¹⁶ And he would have been glad to fill up on the pods that the hogs were eating, but no one would give him any.

WHERE SIN LEADS: TO EMPTINESS/LONELINESS!!!

/ REPENTANCE

¹⁷ “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired men have more food than they can eat, and here I am starving to death. ¹⁸ I shall get up and go to my father and tell him, “Father, I have **sinned** against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I do not deserve to be called your son anymore. Make me one of your hired men [servants].”’

REPENTANCE LEADS ONE BACK HOME TO THE HEAVENLY FATHER!

GRACE

²⁰ “So he got up and went to his father! While he was still far away, his father saw him and felt sorry for him. He ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ ‘Father,’ the son told him, ‘I have sinned against heaven and against you. I do not deserve to be called your son anymore.’

²² “The father told his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best—and put it on him and put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let's eat and begin to celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and has come to life again. He was **lost** and has been **found**.’ And they began to celebrate.’

BEING BACK HOME LEADS TO PEACE & HEALTH & PROSPERITY!

MORE MERCY, EVEN FOR THE UNMERCIFUL & THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS

²⁵ “Now, his older son was out in the field. As he was coming in and approaching the house, he heard music and dancing! ²⁶ After he called one of the servants, he asked what was going on.

²⁷ “‘Your brother has come home,’ he was told, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

²⁸ “Then he became **angry** and **would NOT go in**. So **his father came out** and begged him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘All these years I've been working like a slave for you and have never disobeyed a command of yours, but you never gave me even a little goat to celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But as soon as this **son of yours** came back, who devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him.’

³¹ “‘Son,’ the father said to him, ‘**you are always with me**, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad. This **brother of yours** was dead and has come to life. He was **lost** and has been **found**.’”

THERE IS HOPE, EVEN FOR SELF-RIGHTEOUS SCUMBAGS!!!

This parable's TITLE in the Early Church.

The MASTERY of Jesus's PARABLE STORYTELLING: No Endings!

SO, “Where are **YOU** right now?”