

## Bible/College Class Notes – Studies in The New Testament – Lesson 75

### Good News of Salvation in the Saviour’s Parables

**This week** – We continue our series of lessons based on some Parables of the Lord Jesus Christ.

*The son planned to say, “Father, I have sinned ... I am no more worthy to be called thy son ...” But when he was yet a long way off, his father saw him ... and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.”  
Luke 15v19-20.*

#### Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Luke 15v11-24 (The son returns and is forgiven)	
Monday	Proverbs 1v1-19 (Loving guidance for sons and daughters)	
Tuesday	Proverbs 2v1-20 (Walk in God’s wisdom)	
Wednesday	Proverbs 3v1-20 (Trust only in the Lord)	
Thursday	Proverbs 3v21-35 (The wise will inherit glory)	
Friday	Proverbs 4v1-19 (Forsake not good doctrine)	
Saturday	Proverbs 4v20, 5v2, 7v1-5 (Keep all God’s words)	

**Important Thought for us Today:** What is it to sin against Heaven? When we think of Heaven the words that come to mind are holy, perfect, full of love, harmonious, peaceful, no sorrow or pain, no death, eternal life with continual happiness. These benefits only exist in Heaven because it is God’s eternal home, and it reflects His character as the designer. Without God Heaven would be Hell. Initially, the prodigal son wanted to take all the blessings of his father’s home **but** not to live there. We **sin against Heaven** when we want its blessings **but** live as if God does not exist, rejecting His holy standards. **Romans 3v23**, says, *‘For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.’* Seeking to live independently of God in unbelief, but still wanting a blessed life, (which only God can give), is the greatest sin. Yet, in mercy, the Lord calls us to turn from our sin in repentance, accepting Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour. If we sincerely believe in Christ’s substitutionary death on the cross to remove the guilt of all our sin, then He will present His righteousness to His Father on our account, and we will receive forgiveness and all the blessings of Heaven. We will be blessed - just as the prodigal son was when he was forgiven by his father, dressed in fine garments, and benefitted from being accepted as a son into his father’s home.

**Hymn 51v3 speaks of a soul coming to the Lord in sincere repentance and faith:**

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| <p>1. Look upon me, O Lord, forgive,<br/>Let a repenting sinner live;<br/>By all Thy mercies large and free,<br/>I come dear Lord to trust in Thee.</p> | <p>4. With shame I all my sin confess,<br/>Sins against law and truth and grace;<br/>And if my soul condemned should be,<br/>That would be just and right for me.</p> |
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EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

*This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.*

## The Lost Son – A Prodigal Son.

- **This Parable teaches us that without the Lord our souls are Destitute.**
    - **Prodigal** – one who unwisely wastes time, energy or large amounts of money.
    - **The Father** – God, our Creator and Perfect Father, bountifully good and kind.
  - **The Prodigal Son Leaves a Kind Father:**
    - Dissatisfied without cause – he wanted to leave home to go his own way.
    - Wanted his inheritance **now** – wishing in his heart that his father was dead.
- We too** – Want to get away from God, selfishly taking all His kind benefits with us.
- **The Prodigal Son In A Far Country - As Far Away As He Could Get:**
    - To live a lifestyle totally opposite to that of his father – wilfully rebellious.
- We too** – Want our life to ourselves – freedom to sin and break God’s Laws.
- **The Prodigal Son Experiences Great Destitution:**
    - His money runs out. His worldly friends abandon him. Feels desperately lost.
    - Famine strikes - He gets a job (without pay) feeding pigs and eats their food.
- We too** – Will find no soul-satisfaction in this world - completely let down.
- **The Prodigal Son’s Heart is Stirred – ‘He Came To His Senses’:**
    - He remembered his father’s house - even the servants enjoyed good food.
- We too** – Must think of God’s promises to save us and provide all we need.
- **The Prodigal Son Sets Out For Home - Seeking To be A Servant:**
    - Tired, hungry, he sets out on the long journey home – to his father’s house.
    - In his weakness he really felt that he needed help, else he would not arrive.
- We too** – Must turn to God in repentance, seeking forgiveness for our sin.
- **The Prodigal Son Receives A Great Welcome From His Father:**
    - To his surprise his father was continually looking out for him, to receive him.
    - He saw him from afar off and ran to greet him and welcome his son home.
- We too** – Depend on the fact that the Lord Jesus came from His Heavenly home to rescue and save us - dying to take the punishment for our sin.
- **At What Stage in Life Are You? Where are You today?**
    - **Rebellious?** Seeking to get away from God - to ‘enjoy freedom in the world.’
    - **In a Far Country?** As far away as possible, wasting your life and gifts.
    - **Ready to Turn to God?** Recognising your sin and believing that God will come to your rescue, enabling you to reach the comfort of His presence.
    - **Already Repented and Return?** You now know the Lord’s goodness and blessing in your life as you obediently follow and serve your loving Saviour.

***The Lord Jesus, speaking of Himself, said, “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”***

***Luke 19v10.***