

“The Prodigal Father”

Luke 15:11-22

INTRODUCTION: *What does ‘prodigal’ really mean?*

- I. THE FATHER’S APPROACHABLE LOVE
 - A. Note verses 11-12
 - B. Note *The law of inheritance*
 - C. Note the boldness of the younger son
 - D. Note the approachable Father
 - E. Why would a son want to leave such a Father?
- II. THE FATHER’S RELEASING LOVE
 - A. Note verse 12b
 - B. “*Love only possesses what it releases*”
 - C. Did the son know he broke the Father’s heart?
 - D. Do we know when we break our Heavenly Father’s heart?
 - E. Note verse 13a - *The ‘Far Country’*
- III. WHAT IS YOUR ‘FAR COUNTRY’?
 - A. How do we drift away from our Heavenly Father?
 - B. The inability to “*look Him in the eyes*”
 - C. Who is this younger son in the parable?
 - D. To whom was this parable originally addressed?
(vv.2-3 ... to “*church people*”)
 - E. Note verse 14: But today’s question seems **not** to be
“what do we do when the \$\$ runs out?” **but** - “***What can we squeeze into life before the undertaker arrives?***”
 - F. The son went from “pig-slopping” (v.15) to
repentance (v.17)
- IV. THE FATHER’S RUNNING LOVE!
 - A. Whoopee for verse 20!
 - B. Aristotle said: “*Great men don’t run in public.*”
 - C. The son is practicing his speech & the Father runs to him!
(Note also Romans 5:6-8)
 - D. The inheritance never runs out!
 - E. Note verse 22: What an inheritance...

CONCLUSION: “*Boot or no boots, hallelujah!*”