

SERMON OUTLINE MARCH 6, 2016

"Who is the Prodigal One?"

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 approachable Father
- D. 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 <u>is</u> this younger son in the parable?
- D. To whom was this parable originally addressed? (vv. 2-3... to "church people")
- E. The son went from "pigs to repentance" (vv. 15-19)

IV. THE FATHER'S RUNNING LOVE!

- A. Hooray 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 Genesis 3:9; Romans 5:6-8)
- D. The inheritance <u>never runs out!</u> (vv. 21-24... wow, ②!)
 + robe (father's) + ring (inheritance) + sandals (not a slave)
 + "fatted calf" (only for honoured guests)

CONCLUSION: "Boot or no boots, Hallelujah!"