

# A Parable Of Two Sons—No. 2

Luke 15:11-32

## Introduction:

- A. Second of two great parables about a man with two sons. (Cf. Matt. 21:28).
  - 1. Both aimed at self-righteous Jews.
  - 2. Both contain important lessons for Christians.
- B. This parable rebuked the self-righteous and unforgiving Pharisees. (vv. 1-2)
- C. This parable describes the attitudes of three men:

## Discussion:

### I. The Son Who Left Home.

- A. At home he became *too independent*.
  - 1. He apparently felt little need for:
    - a. His Father. (cf. Acts 17:28).
    - b. His family [church]. (1 Cor. 12:18-25).
    - c. The security of home. (cf. John 14:2, 6).
  - 2. He may have grown tired of:
    - a. The responsibilities of home. (Eph. 2:10).
    - b. The restrictions of home. (cf. 1 Tim. 1:3).
- B. Away from home he became *very dependent*. (vv. 14-17).
- C. Returning home he became *humbly penitent*. (vv. 18-20).
  - 1. Did not return demanding forgiveness, but begging.
  - 2. Did not demand former position, but would accept any position.
  - 3. Did not say, "If I have sinned....", but "I have sinned...."

### II. The Son Who Stayed Home.

- A. He was jealous (vv. 28-30) - Led to anger and pouting.
- B. He was self-righteous. (v. 29) - Felt he *deserved* a party. (cf. Luke 17:10).
- C. He was unjustly critical of Father and brother. (vv. 1,2; Matt. 7:1-5)
- D. He was unforgiving. (cf. Luke 17:3; Eph. 4:32; Gal. 6:1).
  - 1. Was not asked to forgive without repentance.
  - 2. Was not asked to accept a brother who slipped back in.

### III. The Father Of Both Sons.

- A. He was impartial - loved both sons. (vv. 24,28).
- B. He was forgiving (cf. 1 John 1:7-2:2)
- C. He gave freedom of choice. Did not force son to stay or return.
- D. He was rejoicing. (cf. Lk. 15:7,10).

## Conclusion:

- A. Avoid the attitudes of son who left and elder brother.
- B. Imitate the attitudes of returning son and Father.