



“It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.”

Sunday of the Lost Son



Introduction

- 3 Main Characters
 - Father
 - Lost son
 - Elder son
- Before the people the elder was better
- **“So the last will be first, and the first last.”** (Matt. 20:16)
- What were the expectations of these two sons?
- What are my expectations of the Lord when I meet with Him?



The Lost Son

- Where is my money?
- Where did you go?
- The father may not want to meet him
- Rejection
- The desire of the Lost son



The Father's Response

- **“But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him...‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23 And bring the fattened calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24 for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” (Lk. 15:20-24)**
- Sometimes our expectations hinder our repentance



The Elder Son

- The father would not allow him to return
- Not be entitled to any part of the house
- He should be restored no greater than a servant – under his feet
- His father would compare his brother to himself – I'm exemplary
- Maybe take his opinion if they should accept him
- The inheritance is mine alone



The Father's Response

- Consider the Parable of the Laborers
- “Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? **Or is your eye evil because I am good.**”
(Matt. 20:15)
- God's righteousness sometimes angers humanity



Comparison of Sins

Lost son

- Insulted his father by asking for his inheritance
- He wasted the gift of money God gave him
- Spent it lavishly
- He joined himself to Satan
- He was separated completely from his father's house

Elder son

- None of the lost son's sins
- ONLY ONE – couldn't love



Comparison of Sins

- Which one is worse?
- **“And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.” (1 Cor. 13:3)**



Conclusion

- Which son looks most like his father?
- If you don't rejoice over the return of sinners, you will not be in heaven.