



Today's Message

Date: July 11, 2021
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: *Joy In Heaven*

Text: Luke 15:1–10 (ESV)

¹ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”
³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
⁸ “Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Introduction: Luke 15 is one of the best known and beloved chapters in the gospels. It is made up of three parables that tell a single story. They focus on a lost sheep, a lost coin, and a lost son. Each parable climaxes with great joy at the recovery of that which was lost. The main character in each of the stories presents us with a mirror image of God's pursuit of the lost and great joy over their salvation. Simultaneously, they rebuke the Pharisees and scribes.

This message will focus on the first two parables.

I. Jesus rebuked the self-righteous . . . 1-2

- A. An surprising audience listened to Jesus . . . 1
- B. therefore, the self-righteous despised him. 2

II. by telling two stories about God. 3-6, 8-9

- A. The first story: The lost sheep. 3-6
- B. The second story: The lost coin. 8-9
- C. The lesson of the stories:
 - 1. It is right to seek the lost diligently . . .
 - 2. regardless of the “value” . . .
 - 3. and rejoice when they are found.
- D. The conclusion of the stories: 7, 10
 - 1. This is what God does . . .
 - 2. and (implied) so do his people.

Today’s take-home truth: Find joy in God who seeks and saves the lost.