

Lessons in Luke -- Lesson 6 – Jesus and the Lost –Rejoicing in Heaven – Part 1

Introduction:

In these lessons we are looking at the ministry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Luke. Simeon prophesied over baby Jesus that He would raise up many weak persons and bring down many proud persons (Luke 2:33-35). Luke 15 contains three parables. We will look at two of them this week. We will look at the rest of the chapter next week.

Read this passage at least five times, then answer the questions as best you can:

^{NKJ} **Luke 15:1** Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. ² And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them." ³ So He spoke this parable to them, saying:

⁴ "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which 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 neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' ⁷ "I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

⁸ "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds *it*? ⁹ "And when she has found *it*, she calls *her* friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!'

¹⁰ "Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." (Luk 15:1-10 NKJ)

In verses one and two who are the people to whom Jesus tells these parables? To whom does Jesus tell these parables?

These parables repeat several words. Find every repetition of "lost (or lose)," "found (or finds)," "rejoice (or joy)" "sinner" and "repent (repentance)"

What is significant about one sheep? One coin?

What makes heaven rejoice? Why?

Of the people mentioned in verses one and two, who is lost? Who is repentant? Over whom does heaven rejoice?

Is heaven rejoicing over you? If yes, why? If no, is there a sin too great for heaven not to forgive?