

The Fatted Calf

Sunday PM 06/05/22

Introduction:

Our Text is **Luke 15.22-23** in this passage there are three elements connected to the Father's response. "The best robe" often connected with royalty.

Esther 6:7 *And Haman answered the king, "For the man whom the king delights to honor, 8 "let a royal robe be brought which the king has worn, and a horse on which the king has ridden, which has a royal crest placed on its head.*

Second "a ring" perhaps just a show of luxury or position of authority, and "the fatted calf.". It has been said this parable has been preached from every perspective except the fatten calf, well I want to talk about this calf.

I) Let us not overdo its importance

- A) The fatted calf does not represent the sacrifices of the Old of Moses.
- B) It does not represent Jesus being offered on the cross.
- C) It is not teaching each one going to heaven will receive a fatted calf.

II) It Does Show Us

A) The Wealth of the Father

1. Most people did not have a fatted calf in the stall.
2. The daily diet of the ordinary ancient Israelite was mainly one of bread, cooked grains, and legumes. Bread was eaten with every meal. Vegetables played a smaller, but significant role in the diet. Legumes and vegetables were typically eaten in stews.

B) Long term preparation

1. Feeding out livestock takes time and money.

2. Livestock does not just gain weight in one day but over a period of time.

C) This was a special occasion

1. One time I preached a funeral and got paid \$100. The man who's funeral I preached made it a point to have his family over for a special meal on holidays. I decided to take the family out to eat at a "special place." One of our children said they knew this was a special time when we ordered the blooming onion!
2. The audience would have understood how important this meal was to the father.
3. On another occasion Jesus spoke of how special it is when one sinner repents.

Luke 15:7 "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.

Luke 15:10 "Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Conclusion:

Our Father in heaven is wanting our repentance and is made happy when we do so. Let us understand His blessings and always be with Him.