

Lost To Be Found

(Part 2)

“In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost.” (Matthew 18:14)

God is searching for the lost, reaching the mankind that he created but went astray from His ways and from doing His will. God the Father had sent to the earth His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to teach us the ways of the Lord, to bring us back to Him, and to guide us with the way of righteousness. Indeed Jesus died on the cross for our sins; HE was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give us eternal life. All that had been done for the sake to bring the lost back to God.

In the same way God wants us to have the same compassionate heart of Him to go and search for the lost. God’s Word give us clear understanding of how to go and serve Him in an effective way as we read here.

2- The Parable of the lost coin: “Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’¹⁰In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” (Luke 15: 8-9) The lost coin is lost inside the house, not outside but inside. And that is applied to those who are inside the family of faith but they are lost. They are members of the church but their sins separate them from God. Like the lost coin it is lost inside the house. As the woman starts to search for the coin, the church should care and nurture every member of the family of faith. We should care and Look after the spiritual condition and the level of commitments for each and every member of the church.

We should be our brothers’ keepers. Those who are missing from our worship we should go and ask for them. Why they are not with us in our fellowship, and what is hindering them. May be they are sick, so we need to go and anoint them with oil and pray for them. Or they might be having trials and fall into problem, so we go and help them with the right council and direct them according to the Word of God, and help them with prayers and with what possible mean that we have.

We should encourage all the members of the church to read the Word of God daily and to meditate on what it says and to pray. Teaching and group bible studies will help each and every member to grow in the grace of God. We should instruct, teach and correct every member with great patience and perseverance. By speaking the truth in love we will achieve good work with the help of the Holy Spirit to edify one another.

3- The Parable of the Lost Son: Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons.¹²The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who

sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.’ So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.” (Luke 15:11-24)

The Story of the lost son here is applied on those who come to know the Lord and being raised by His grace and His goodness to them; they are usually part of the church and the fellowship of the believers. But because God’s household rules and His Word is not suitable to them, then you will find them do as the lost son did. They will take whatever material blessings they are blessed with and whatever ministry they have and they will leave God’s household, the church, and they will start to do their own ways of life. They leave the church because they don’t want to be scrutinized by God’s Word and His commands. They will leave the church to live their own lives and do their own will. But sooner or later being away from God’s presence they find themselves lost all things. They will also try to depend on certain people or friends and they will try to depend on their own strength but all are unsuccessful to make them escape the spiritual and the physical hunger they had reached.

Finally they will come to their senses and will repent and decide to come back to the house of God and join again His church. For the lost son, he needs to decide to come back. What we need to do is to stand firm, trusting God and have faith in the Lord that Himself will convict the lost son to come back to Him. Even if he is far away, even he might be beyond return, but nothing is impossible for the Lord. We should have forgiveness in our hearts and pure love and compassion to receive the lost son back to the family of the Lord.

My Dear and Beloved: For the lost sheep we need to go outside and look after the lost and bring to the flock those who want to follow God. For the lost coin we need to nurture carefully and diligently all the members of the family of God, teaching them and admonishing them with the truth. And for the lost son we should have a compassionate and forgiven heart, and have faith in God that He is the one who can bring him back to his senses to join once again the family of God. Therefore commit yourself to the Lord to serve Him wholeheartedly as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that gives me clear understanding and wisdom that comes from you. Lord I commit myself to serve you and walk in your ways. Lord gives me strength, patience and perseverance to care for the ministry, the people and the field that you put under my care. This is my prayer in Jesus name Amen.