

"Search And Rescue"

"All Is Not Lost" Series – Message #2

Luke 15:1-7 Pastor David Redmond March 21, 2010

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the LORD laid on Him the sins of us all. Isaiah 53:6 (NLT)

In The Parable Of The Lost Sheep,
Jesus Draws Attention To...

1. The _____ Of The Sheep.

What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? Luke 15:4a (NAS)

_____ = to perish, to be lost, ruined, destroyed

For God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world that He [even] gave up His only begotten (unique) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts in, clings to, relies on) Him shall not perish (come to destruction, be lost) but have eternal (everlasting) life. John 3:16 (AMP)

For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls. I Peter 2:25 (NAS)

2. The _____ Of The Shepherd.

What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. Luke 15:4-5 (NAS)

For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I Myself will search and find My sheep. ¹²I will be like a shepherd looking for his scattered flock. I will find My sheep and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on that dark and cloudy day. ¹³I will bring them back home to their own land of Israel from among the peoples and nations. I will feed them on the mountains of Israel and by the rivers and in all the places where people live. ¹⁴Yes, I will give them good pastureland on the high hills of Israel. There they will lie down in pleasant places and feed in the lush pastures of the hills. ¹⁵I Myself will tend My sheep and give them a place to lie down in peace, says the Sovereign LORD. ¹⁶I will search for My lost ones who strayed away, and I will bring them safely home again. I will bandage the injured and strengthen the weak. But I will destroy those who are fat and powerful. I will feed them, yes—feed them justice! Ezekiel 34:11-16 (NLT)

3. The _____ For Celebration.

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 which was lost!' Luke 15:6 (NAS)

I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. John 10:11 (NAS)

The Lesson Of The Parable:

NOW THE tax collectors and [notorious and especially wicked] sinners were all coming near to [Jesus] to listen to Him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes kept muttering and indignantly complaining, saying, This man accepts and receives and welcomes [preeminently wicked] sinners and eats with them... ⁷Thus, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one [especially] wicked person who repents (changes his mind, abhorring his errors and misdeeds, and determines to enter upon a better course of life) than over ninety-nine righteous persons who have no need of repentance.

Luke 15:1-2; 7 (AMP)

A. No One Is _____ Out Of God's _____.

For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost. Luke 19:10 (NAS)

B. No One Is _____ God's Power To _____.

Yes, the Sovereign LORD is coming in power. He will rule with a powerful arm. See, He brings His reward with Him as He comes. ¹¹He will feed His flock like a shepherd. He will carry the lambs in His arms, holding them close to His heart. He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young. Isaiah 40:11 (NLT)

C. It Is Time To _____ The _____ Party.

Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Matthew 9:36-37 (NAS)

So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You " He said to him, "Tend My lambs." ¹⁶He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You " Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep." John 21:15-17 (NAS)

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27 (NIV)