

Most people saw
sinners and
tax collectors, but

Jesus saw **lost coins,**

lost sheep,

lost sons.



LUKE 15... “lost” parables

- sheep – lost because of ignorance
- coin – lost because of carelessness
- son – lost because of choice

reason for story = Jesus accused of befriending sinners (*vs. 1*)

Teaching of story = Because of God's love,
there is hope for sinners and restoration
(salvation) is possible

Emphasis of story = role of repentance
in the sinner's journey home

(the human aspect, unlike the
previous two stories)

prodigal = extravagant, indulgent,
wasteful, reckless person...
especially with money

*not the main point of the story
though it has become the
adjective by which this story
is known.

REJECTION...

REPENTANCE...

RETURN

request – brazen, **self-centered**, disrespectful

“estate”

- (liquidated) assets i.e. no future **responsibility** or **management**

“distant country” – i.e. spurned home, family,
values and **accountability** of his youth

“eureka” moment...”

There is a **better way**, and I will stake
everything on the **hope**
it offers.

confession... exposing sin; seeking mercy
and forgiveness; **taking responsibility**

“got up and went” – Beyond **thinking**
and **feeling** is the “**action**” of
beginning a new lifestyle!

FATHER = drastically **underestimated**

assumption = only accept or want me
as a “hired man”

speech/feast... compassion,
forgiveness, reconciliation,
honor (*instantly!*)

Most people saw
sinners and
tax collectors, but

Jesus saw **lost coins,**

lost sheep,

lost sons.



WHY DO WE REBEL AGAINST GOD?

We cannot help it

There is not a righteous person
on earth who does what is right
and never sins.

(Ecclesiastes 7:20)

But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment (“Do not covet”) produced in me every kind of covetous desire. For apart from law, sin is dead [ineffective].

(Romans 7:8)

WHAT CAN WE DO TO CHANGE IT?

Repent reversal of direction;
desire to change; humility

Repent and be baptized, every one of you,
for the forgiveness of your sins. And you
will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

This promise is for you and your children
and all who will follow after in the future, for
all whom the Lord our God will call.

(Acts 2:38-39)

In the past God overlooked such ignorance [idolatry], but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead.

(Acts 17:29-31)

Receive Accept God's offer in Christ;
trust; believe; follow

Most people saw
sinners and
tax collectors, but

Jesus saw **lost coins,**

lost sheep,

lost sons.

