

Entering and Reigning In The Kingdom-Our Only Focus Part 16

The Forgiving Father

Luke 15: ¹¹Jesus 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.

¹³"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.

¹⁴After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs.

¹⁶He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷"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! ¹⁸I will **set out and go back to my father** and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.'

²⁰ **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.

Psalm 103: ¹ Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. ² Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits-

³ who forgives **ALL** your sins and heals **ALL** your diseases, ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and **compassion**, ⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. ⁶ The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel: ⁸ The LORD is **compassionate** and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

⁹ He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; ¹⁰ he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him: ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. ¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, **so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;** ¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. ¹⁵ As for man, his days are like grass, he flourishes like a flower of the field; ¹⁶ the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.

¹⁷ But from everlasting to everlasting **the LORD's love is with those who fear him**, and his righteousness with their children's children-

¹⁸ with those **who keep his covenant AND remember to obey his precepts.**

Psalm 51: ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

Luke 15: ²¹"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²²"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.

1 John 1: ⁵This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶**IF** we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. ⁷**But IF** we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

⁸**IF** we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

⁹**IF** we confess our sins, he (*THEN*) is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰**IF** we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.

2 Corinthians 5: ¹⁰For we must **ALL** appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one **may** receive **what is due him** for the things done while in the body, whether **good** or **bad**.

Luke 15: ²³Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴For this son of mine was **dead** (*Nekros*) and is **alive again** (*Anazao*); he was **lost** (*apollumi*) and is found .' So they began to celebrate.

Dead is the Greek transliterated word: Nekros:

1. destitute of a life that recognizes and is devoted to God, because given up to trespasses and sins
2. inactive as respects doing right , destitute of force or power, inactive, inoperative

Alive again the Greek transliterated word: *Anazao*

1. live again, recover life - to be restored to a correct life - of one who returns to a better moral state - to revive, regain strength and vigor

Found is the Greek transliterated word: Heurisko - those who come, or return to a place

²⁵"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

²⁸"The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' ³¹" 'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³²**But we had to celebrate and be glad,** because this brother **OF YOURS** was **dead** (*Nekros*) and is **alive again** (*Anazao*); he was **lost** (*apollumi*) and is **found** (*Heurisko*).' "

Summary:

The son realized he was out of control, and also realized that he needed to go back to his Father to be looked after.

We see THE MASSIVE COMPASSION shown by The Father, he held his son in his arms and kissed him.

He showed complete forgiveness and showered blessing on his "lost-out of control son".

He reinstates his son's inheritance position in the family, and pulls out the fatted calf and throws a party.

The Father was on the look out for his son to return to the household, Our God is no different.

Remember, Jesus said His whole focus was on getting the "out of control-lost" sheep back under the influence of God.

Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CpgOlnzew68>