

# The Heart of God the Father

Luke 15:11-32

You must never stray away from your nature. You can have victory no matter what happens if you correctly hold onto your nature. The nature of what God fulfilled through Christ is being able to meet God. Have you met God? Then what kind of relationship do you have with God right now? The word Father is the word that describes God's relationship with you. The parable of the prodigal son is a great illustration of who God the Father is.

## 1. The two sons

The younger son demanded that his father divide his inheritance. His demand was not just a demand, but a declaration that he needs his father's property more than he does. And that he didn't care what happened to his father's life with the property. For this kind of son his father sold his own land and split the inheritance with him. However, the son received the inheritance and spent it all. Then he decides to go back to her father's house because he didn't have anything to eat anymore. The son then plans to become his father's servant and works to repay what he owes his father. But when he returns, his father greets him, dresses him in fine clothes, puts a ring on his finger, and throws him a great feast. On his way home, the older son returned to find that his younger son had killed a calf and made a big feast. He became furious after finding this out. He had always listened to his father, but he had never made a feast for himself. Furthermore, in his anger, he was angry because his father's inheritance was being squandered on an unworthy son, who was squandering the inheritance that should have been returned to him by the father's great feast. . This was unacceptable to the older son, who had listened to his father's words with the utmost care for his inheritance. The truth is that neither the younger son nor the older son was interested in their father's wealth. Both had left their father. The difference was that one was good, the other was corrupt. One son was lost because of his depravity, the other because of his righteousness

## 2. Return home

When the younger son arose and returned to his father's house, it signified his resolution to restore his relationship with his father. At the time, being home was a symbol of belonging. The son returned to become treated as one of his father's hired servants, but his father embraced his son in his arms and forgave him without hesitation. The younger son left but returned, as he humbly repented and received salvation when he joined the celebration. The father entreated his older son to join this celebration. This parable ends without revealing whether or not the older son, who never disobeyed his father's command, joined the celebration. What is the reason for this?

God is still celebrating and he entreats you to join the feast. God invites all people to this feast. (Isaiah 25:6, Matthew 8:11) You do not need your Father's sacrifice, but must live a life in which you join the feast that He prepares for you. He is questioning whether or not you will join the feast.

## 3. How can you return home?

To return back to God, you need God's love first. If God does not seek you first, you can never find God with your own strength. However, God has lent out His hand first so you have heard the Gospel and are responding to the Gospel by being at the place of worship.

There is one more thing God asks of you. It is repentance. You believed that Jesus is the Christ and that all of your sins were forgiven when you heard the Gospel. You must remember that when you decided to accept this and select faith, you came to the resolution that you will overturn your incorrect life. You must repent for more than simply leaving God and living an incorrect life. The older brother was already living a correct life. However, he left God. Therefore, you must repent your incorrect faith and life, but must also repent for your self-righteousness that tells you that your effort is enough. This is because it may seem right but, in reality, it is the same as being separated from God.

There is also something more important that God also asks of you. Your heart must beat when you think of the price that God has paid to bring you back to his house. God has sent His son to this earth to invite you to His house and restore your relationship with Him. He has sacrificed himself for you to wear the best robe. He put on a thorn crown for you to have a ring on your hand. The younger brother joined the feast with no cost, but the older brother believed that there was a cost that he should have paid. The feast was prepared for you because Jesus, who is the son of God, paid for the price through death. Therefore, the salvation you received had no cost and is by God's grace but you must never forget that from God's perspective, it is the best option.

How can you live a life as a witness to save the world? Can you have the same heart as the father who felt compassion and ran to embrace his son? Isn't this the same heart that God has for you as He poured His love, Jesus Christ to you? What you really need is to enjoy the relationship with God as you call Him your Father. By His love, you are who you are. By the Father's love, you are His witness. God's love is sufficient and enough to move your heart. Are you swayed by the voices of the world, circumstances, and problems? Why are you in that state right now? Are you there to receive God's inheritance? Or because God is your Father and His great love for you? Nothing else matters for those who call upon God the Father. They will rejoice to find the prodigal son than to receive the Father's inheritance. To make this choice, Jesus does not record whether the older son returned. What choice will you make? May you know the heart of God the Father and lay down all my expectations at the call of God the Father and enter fully into the feast of God's love and live a life of feasting with God, in the name of Jesus Christ.