THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS

Luke 15:11-32

A certain man had two sons. One day the younger son said, "F __ H __ R, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his L __ V __ G."

The older son stayed, but the younger son left home soon after and went into a ____ R country. There he wasted all his ____ B __ T ___ C __ in riotous living.

Then there arose a great $F ___ N _$ in the land and he had not enough to eat. He took a job feeding $_ W __ _$, and was so hungry he wished he could eat what the pigs ate.

Then he began to think of how even the servants in his father's house were living better than he was. So he $R \subseteq S$ and started for home.

Would his father receive back such a wayward, ragged and ruined son as he? "When he was yet a great way __ F F, his father S __ _ him, and had C __ _ P __ S S __ _ _, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him."

The son said, "Father, I have ____ N N ____ against H ____ V ____, and in thy sight." But the father said, "Bring forth the B __ S __ robe, ... and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: and bring hither the F __ T T ___ calf, ... and let us eat, and be merry." What a welcome for one who had shamed his father so!

When the $_L__$ R son heard the news that his brother had come home and that his father had filled the fatted calf, he was very angry. He said to his father, "Lo, these many years do I S $_$ V $_$ thee, neither transgressed . . . thy commandment; and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make $_$ R R $_$ with my friends."

But his father said: "All that I have is thine. It was meet that we should . . . be G _____: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found."

This parable tells of the love of God for sinners gone far from Him, that He has forgiveness, salvation and blessing for one who returns to Him and owns he has sinned. But the self-righteous, who know not the father's love and who reject His grace, remain outside and never enter into blessing. Have you, dear reader, confessed to God that like the younger son you are a sinner, or are you like the elder brother? The Lord Jesus said, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

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