

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

FOR THIS MY SON WAS DEAD, AND IS ALIVE AGAIN

HE WAS LOST, AND IS FOUND

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY EVENING, JUNE 19, 2022

FATHER'S DAY,

SCRIPTURE READING: **LUKE 15:18-32**

Luke 15:22-24, But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. 23: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry. 24: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

1. BACKGROUND

- a. In **Colossians 4:14** Paul identifies Dr. Luke as the beloved physician. **Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you.**
- b. God's choice of Dr. Luke to author this book was no accident.
- c. **1 Corinthians 1:26** says, **For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.**
- d. With respect to Dr. Luke and the Apostle Paul, God reached down and saved a couple of intellectual giants and filled them with the Holy Spirit. **Ephesians 5:18, And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Galatians 5:16, This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.**
- e. It gives great comfort God uses men and women as long as they are sold out to Christ and remain in the center of His will.
- f. Paul and Luke were great friends and traveled together on many occasions.
- g. I believe Scripture indicates Dr. Luke accompanied Paul on his second missionary journey, and possibly on his third.
- h. I have aligned myself and accepted the theory for years that Dr. Luke was a Gentile based on **Colossians 4:7-13** where his name is omitted among the brethren who were of the circumcision. However, a careful study of **Romans 3:1-2**, states emphatically the chief advantage of being a Jew was to them was committed the oracles of God. In other words, they were God's chosen people to provide Divine Revelation to the human race. **What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? 2: Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God.** **Hebrews 5:12, For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.** **1 Peter 4:11, If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.** **Acts 7:38, This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us;** Dr. Luke penned more text than any New Testament writer; more than Paul and John. Therefore, I must conclude that Dr. Luke was not a Gentile – he was a Jew based on a clear unambiguous statement from the Preserved Word of God. **God has never changed His established rule that only the Hebrews were to record and pass on His Divine Revelation.** God Himself promised to preserve His Word. **Psalms 12:6-7, The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. 7: Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this**

generation for ever. In the aforementioned verse about preservation, does God speak truth or error? The Preserved Word of God emphatically tells us that God cannot lie. **Titus 1:2, In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;**

- i. This sets forth a very important question for your consideration. Of the men and women who are changing the Bible today; are they Jews or Gentiles? I do not believe God has changed His mind or His Word with respect to Divine Revelation. **Malachi 3:6, For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.**
- j. Dr. Luke wrote the **Book of Acts** where he was a companion with the Apostle Paul.
- k. Notice Luke's use of the word "we." In **Acts 16:10** he says, **And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.**
- l. From **Acts Chapter 16** we conclude that Luke was with Paul on his historical crossing into Europe.
- m. He was possibly one of Paul's earlier converts and stayed with him to the end.
- n. The reason we know this is because **2 Timothy 4:11** states, **Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.**
- o. Luke stresses the fact that Jesus was the perfect man.
- p. Of course, Luke writes from Mary's point of view in the genealogy.
- q. Luke presents the perfect, Divine Son of God as our High Priest, touching the feeling of our infirmities and able to extend help, mercy, and love to us. **Hebrews 4:15, For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 7:26, For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;**
- r. The **Gospel of Luke** contains many features omitted by Matthew and Mark.
- s. Dr. Luke has the longest account of the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ than any other Gospel. Dr. Luke gives us the songs of Christmas.
- t. Dr. Luke gives us twenty miracles of which six are recorded in no other Gospel. He gives us twenty-three parables and eighteen of them are found nowhere else.
- u. The parable of The Prodigal Son and The Good Samaritan are particular to Luke's Gospel.
- v. He also gives us a very human account of the walk to Emmaus of our Resurrected Lord. He proves Jesus was still human after His resurrection. **Luke 24:13&15, And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. 15: And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.**
- w. Dr. Luke demonstrated the resurrection was not of the Spirit, but of the body. Jesus was sown a natural body. He was raised a spiritual body in accordance with **1 Corinthians 15:44. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. Luke 24:39, Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. John 20:27-28, Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. 28: And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.**
- x. He reveals the true human nature of the Lord Jesus Christ. We know that Jesus Christ was both Divine and human. **John 1:14, And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.**
- y. The person, Jesus Christ, represents one having the true nature of God and the true nature of man, united in one Divine person mysteriously possessing a single consciousness and a single will. What a Saviour we have, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!!
- z. Some key themes in the **Book of Luke:**
 - 1. Jesus understands our weaknesses, temptations, and our trials.
 - 2. Jesus came to save both the Jew and the Gentile; the accepted and the outcast.
 - 3. Jesus came to save the poor and the rich, man and woman, adult and child.
 - 4. Jesus came to save both the free and the oppressed.
 - 5. Jesus came to save everyone who will believe the record that He has given and will place their faith in His blood. **John 6:29, Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.**

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Please refer to the June 19, 2022 Morning Message for the Introduction.

3. SIX POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

e. I will arise and go to my father.

1. **Luke 15:18-19, I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, 19: And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.**
2. A father should never give up hope for his children.
3. The Bible says in **Proverbs 22:6, Train up a child I the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**
4. I believe this father's heart was broken when this young man came to him and asked for his share of the inheritance.
5. I see the attitude of a father that will never give up hope on his son, as a matter of fact, if he were close to him, he would have encouraged his son.
6. This father knew this young boy was in trouble and was wasting his substance on riotous living.
7. Money and material things suddenly lose importance when our children are in trouble. If the father does not help them, who are they to turn to?
8. This son was a part of the father's prayers.
9. I believe this father would arise every morning and look down the road to see if his son was coming home.

f. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him,

1. **Luke 15:20, And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.**
2. The true attitude as to how we feel about our children will come out after they have wasted all.
3. Notice this great father's attitude; he saw him, he had compassion on him, he ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.
4. We need to rely on the fact when our children have lost all, God is still there and God is enough.

g. Father, I have sinned against heaven.

1. **Luke 15:21, And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.**
2. A boy is saved and returns to the arms of his father.
3. There was no reviewing the past. This reminds me of **Philippians 3:13-14, Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. 14: I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**
4. The only thing this father was concerned about was his son was safely home once again.
5. He had been saved and is now in the arms of his father. This is a perfect picture of God's salvation plan for mankind. We must note the salvation plan has always been the same from the very beginning. **Romans 4:3 For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Galatians 3:6 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. James 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.**
6. The Bible says in **1 John 1:9, If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
7. We know this father could not cleanse the boy from unrighteousness; but I can tell you this son was not in a back-sliding condition; he came to know Jesus Christ as personal Saviour. **Titus 3:5, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost. John 1:12, But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:**
8. The father does not bring up the past. **Psalms 103:12, As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.** Immediately what he thinks of is in the next

point.

h. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.

1. **Luke 15:22-24, But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. 23: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry. 24: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.**
2. The Bible says in **Luke 15:10, Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.**
3. I'm often questioned whether this boy was in a back-sliding condition or whether he was saved or lost; I believe **Luke 15:22-24** settles the matter. I will leave God's Word as it is.
4. Remember we were dead in trespasses and sins. **Ephesians 2:1, And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;** The soul of man upon entering the world is dead. Only faith in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ can make the soul alive. We must keep in mind Adam's disobedience plunged the whole human race into sin. **Ezekiel 18:4, Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.** It is only the Lord Jesus Christ and his finished work that can revive the dead soul of mankind. **1 Corinthians 15:22, For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.** Therefore, the statement God made to Nicodemus rings true. **John 3:7, Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.**
5. The heart of this father and his compassion is the way every father's heart should be.
6. Now we come to the next point.

i. Now his elder son was in the field.

1. **Luke 15:25-28, Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. 26: And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. 27: And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. 28: And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.**
2. When we do what is right in the sight of God there is always opposition.
3. Listen to this complainer and griper who never left home but was lost in the father's house.
4. He did not love his brother or his father; he was self-centered and respected no one.
5. He would not go in to welcome his brother or greet the guests.
6. His father actually comes out and entreats him to come to the banquet, but he refused. The son was angry and would not go in.

j. Lo, these many years do I serve thee.

1. **Luke 15:29-32, And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: 30: But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. 31: And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. 32: It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.**
2. His service to his father was not based on love; it was based on his so-called obligation.
3. He is self-centered and concerned about how long he has served, with no reward.
4. There is no rejoicing in his heart with respect to the salvation of his brother.
5. Believers need to know God first and serve Him out of a sense of love rather than obligation. **Philippians 3:10, That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;**
6. Our Heavenly Father has promised to bless us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. **Ephesians 1:3, Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:**
7. This elder son breaks fellowship with his father over a decision the father had made for which he had no responsibility in that arena.
8. A great Bible scholar once said the younger son broke the father's heart and the elder son lost fellowship with the father, but there is also a third son in the picture that uttered this parable.

He is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ the Son of God, He was an ideal Son with no sin in Him. **Matthew 3:17, And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**

9. He left His home in Heaven, came to a far country to save you and I by dying a sacrificial death on the cross and being bodily resurrected the third day. **John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**
10. For every father, the way to eternal life is to receive Him. **John 1:12, But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:**
- 11.

WALK A LITTLE PLAINER DADDY

"Walk a little plainer daddy"
Said a little boy so frail.
"I'm following in your footsteps,
And I don't want to fail.
Sometimes your steps are very plain,
Sometime they are hard to see.
So walk a little plainer daddy
For you are leading me."
"I know that once you walked
This way many years ago,
And what you did along the way
I'd really like to know.
For sometimes when I am tempted,
And I don't know what to do,
So walk a little plainer daddy
For I must follow you.
Someday when I'm grown up
You are like I want to be
Then I will have a little boy
Who will want to follow me.
And I want to lead him right
And help him to be true
So walk a little plainer daddy
For we must follow you."

Author Unknown

4. CONCLUSION

- a. Perhaps you are a father who has never trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour; you are attempting to shoulder the responsibility of fatherhood on your own, using methods of the world. It will not work my friend. Come to Jesus and be saved. **Acts 4:12, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**
- b. Perhaps you are saved and are like the elder son, out of fellowship with your Heavenly Father, attempting to serve Him out of obligation. It will not work my friend.
- c. God does not intend for us to operate in His permissive will or on the fringes of His will. Every father, in order to be effective, must be in the perfect center of God's will.
- d. Remember in the eye of the storm, amongst trials and tribulation there is perfect peace with the Lord Jesus Christ. **Romans 5:1, Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: Isaiah 26:3, Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Colossians 3:15, And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.**
- e. You can only become an effective father as you allow Jesus to lead, obeying the still small voice of the Holy Spirit as He speaks the words of the precious Saviour at the right hand of the Father. **John 16:13, Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not**

speaking of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

- f. **Jesus is ready to save you today.**
- g. If you know not Christ as personal Saviour, everything that you have done in the name of good or bad, is for nought.
- h. God is not in the business of regulating the lives of unbelievers; He strictly holds unbelievers to the message of the cross: it is the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, and faith in His blood that provides salvation.
- i. Every single father needs to come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- j. We need to have Bible study with our children.
- k. Fathers need to lead the family in family devotions.
- l. We need to lead our family to church not just send them.
- m. We need to get involved in the local church so they can become grounded in sound doctrine and learn how to support the local church. We must remember it is the local church that is the pillar and the ground of the truth. **1 Timothy 3:15 But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**
- n. I believe the Word of God is perfectly alive and true today when it says in **Proverbs 22:6, Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**
- o. The problem is we do not know how old is old, sometimes old might be a teen-ager, sometimes old is forty, fifty, or sixty.
- p. We need to stay with God's Word and make sure we impart the Preserved Word Of God to our children. **Deuteronomy 6:7, And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.**
- q. The Bible says in **Matthew 11:28-29, Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29: Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.**
- r. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;** Romans 3:10, **As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:** Romans 10:9-10, **That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- s. Please stand.

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