



**KINGDOM  
COME**

**<sup>1</sup> Now the tax collectors & sinners were all drawing near to hear Him.**

**<sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees & the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners & eats with them.”**

**Luke 15:1-2**

# KINGDOM COME: FOR THE LOST – V. 1&2

- They were offended that Jesus welcomed sinners
- They saw themselves as righteous & others as sinners

*“For the Son of Man came to seek & to save the lost.”* – Luke 19:10

*“None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.”* – Romans 3:10-12

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Jesus didn't build His Kingdom to keep sinners away; He brings sinners home.

**<sup>3</sup> So He told them this parable:**

**<sup>4</sup> “What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, & go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?**

**Luke 15:3-4**

# DANGER IN THINKING WE'RE NOT LOST – V. 3&4

- The 99 represents those who believe they are righteous
  - They don't recognize their need to be found... because they don't believe they are lost!

*“All we like sheep have gone astray.”* – Isaiah 53:6

*“The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good. The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.”* – Psalm 14:1-3

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**We can't understand the Shepherd's pursuit of the lost until we recognize our own need for the Shepherd.**

**<sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.**

**<sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends & his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'**

**Luke 15:5-6**

# The Shepherd Finds Us & Brings Us Home – V. 5&6

- The Shepherd doesn't give up when He finds the sheep
- He lays it on His shoulders: Carries the weight & Shows care
- The sheep contributes nothing to its rescue - it is the Shepherd who seeks, finds, carries, & restores.

*"For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep & will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, & I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds & thick darkness."*

- Ezekiel 34:11-12

*"When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things."*

- Mark 6:34

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The Kingdom isn't about lost sheep finding their own way home: it's about the Shepherd going after them & carrying them home.

**<sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.**

**Luke 15:7**

# Heaven Rejoices Over the Lost – V. 7

- The religious leaders complain because Jesus received sinners; **heaven is rejoicing because sinners were coming home.**
- Jesus exposes the difference between the **heart** of religion & the **heart** of the Kingdom.
  - Religion asks, *“Why are you welcoming them?”*
  - **The Kingdom says, “Rejoice - they've been found!”**

*“He will tend His flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom & gently lead those that are with young.”* - Isaiah 40:11

*“I am the good shepherd. I know my own & my own know me, just as the Father knows me & I know the Father; & I lay down my life for the sheep.”* - John 10:14-15

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**Do I celebrate repentance,  
or do I resent the people who need it?**

- **Recognize - We ALL are sheep!**
  - Don't think Actions take the place of Jesus!
- **Rest - We ALL need the Shepherd!**
  - Repentance isn't punishment; it's coming home.
- **Pursue - We ALL ask: "Who is my one?"**
  - Who around me is wandering?
  - Who have I written off as "*too far gone*"?
- **Celebrate - We ALL "Rejoice when they come home."**
  - Don't resent God's grace toward someone else.
  - Don't judge someone's past when God is celebrating their repentance.

