

Sunday - January 31, 2021

I Will...Forgive You

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Today's Scripture: Luke 15:17-20

¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." '

²⁰ "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

I WILL

- When someone says that to you, it means three things
 - You are important to me
 - I want to bless you
 - I am willing to act
- The Lord tells you "I will...forgive you"
- Being forgiven changes everything

THE CLOSER HE GOT TO HOME, THE HARDER EVERY STEP BECAME

- He left home with a pocket full of money and a heart full of arrogance
- The word Prodigal means "over the top" and that is what he did
- What came next was inevitable. He ran into a brick wall
- God's principles are as inevitable as gravity
- *"He came to himself" Luke 15:17*
- He had no illusions – He had brashly rejected his home and boldly defied everything his father stood for
- The only thing he deserved was rejection
- *"But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet; and bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let*

us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.” Luke 15:22-24

GOD WANTS YOU TO KNOW THREE UNCHANGING TRUTHS

- Only God is God
 - God alone is Holy
 - God alone is Merciful
- You need the Mercy only God can give
 - You are a sinner
 - Your sin has separated you from God
- Forgiveness can only come from the Savior
 - “I will arise and go to my Father” Luke 15:18
 - He knew that only his Father could save him
 - If you ever doubt God’s love for you, look to the cross, and remember what it means

THE LORD SAYS “I WILL FORGIVE YOU”

- You must come to Him through His Son