

Sharing a Father's Welcome: a Tale of Two Sons (1)



Intro: Seeking the Shalom of the City Jeremiah 29:7 *"Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare."*

- Three Options faced The Captives:
 - Babylonians – "Move into the city and _____ your spiritual identity"
 - False Prophets – "Don't move into the city & _____ your spiritual identity."
 - Jeremiah – "Move _____ the city and _____ your spiritual identity."
 - This vision prefigures Christians in the NT:
 - Heb. 11:13 *"All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth."*
 - 1 Pet. 2:11 *"Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul."*
 - 1 Peter 2:12 – *"good deeds"* (Gal. 6:9-10). 2:13-15 – *"praise ... do good"*
 - 2:17 – *"_____ all men"* – L&N: *"to provide aid or financial assistance, with the implication that this is an appropriate means of showing respect – 'to give assistance to, to provide for the needs of as a sign of respect, to support and honor.'"*

Sharing the Father's Welcome – (I)

- Luke 15:1 *"Now all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming near Him to listen to Him. 2 Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, 'This man receives sinners and eats with them.'"*
 - For generations, this story has been described as the parable of the "_____."
- It is a story, according to Jesus, about a "_____ and _____." It was predominantly a standing challenge to the _____ person: today a challenge to: _____. It is a story of two lost sons and a father's prodigious _____.
 - It is a story, FIRST of the younger son who is _____. He is lost in his outward and blatant rejection of his father and his resulting moral depravity and profligate living. This son is seeking life through _____.
 - SECOND, It is a story of an older son, an elder brother. He is _____, but not in moral depravity. Rather, in his moral _____ or Moral _____ – that keeps him from mercy and results in a _____ attitude toward his lost brother.
 - THIRD, It is also a story of a radically _____, _____ and _____ father.
 - FOURTH, underlying and hidden story that is present but not overtly apparent.
- **The Younger Son**
 - _____ the father,
 - Pursuing his _____ and is
 - lost in his '_____'.
 - Independence & Immorality Always leads down _____, _____-_____ streets
 - When the Younger son makes his request for the inheritance, it is essentially a _____ of his _____. He is, in essence, saying, "You are _____ to me."
 - The first place the young man turned for help was the _____.
 - This story is also a story of a _____ from _____.
- **The Father's Response**
 - _____ to his Son.
 - Runs _____ his Confession
 - Is. 65:24 *"It will also come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear."*
 - _____ & _____ Restoration & Exaltation
 - A Feast of _____