

BTC - MARCH 26, 1989

MATTHEW 5:6

LUKE 15:1-22

MANY TIMES JESUS TOLD SPECIAL STORIES TO THE DISCIPLES AND OTHER PEOPLE HE MET. ONE TIME JESUS TOLD THREE OF THESE SPECIAL STORIES.

① THE FIRST STORY WAS ABOUT A LITTLE SHEEP THAT WAS LOST. JESUS SAID THERE WAS A MAN THAT HAD 100 SHEEP. THEN ONE DAY ONE LITTLE SHEEP WANDERED OFF AND WAS LOST. THE MAN WENT AWAY FROM THE OTHER 99 SHEEP AND WENT LOOKING FOR THAT ONE LITTLE LOST SHEEP. THE MAN LOOKED, AND LOOKED, AND LOOKED. FINALLY, THE MAN FOUND THE LITTLE LOST SHEEP. HE WAS SO HAPPY TO FIND THE LITTLE SHEEP! WHEN HE FOUND IT, HE PICKED THE LITTLE SHEEP UP AND CARRIED IT HOME ON HIS SHOULDERS. WHEN THE MAN GOT HOME, HE CALLED ALL HIS FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TOGETHER. HE TOLD THEM, "BE HAPPY WITH ME, I HAVE FOUND MY LITTLE SHEEP."

JESUS SAID THAT GOD AND THE ANGELS IN HEAVEN ARE HAPPY, (JUST LIKE THIS MAN WAS HAPPY) WHENEVER ONE PERSON GETS SAVED.

② THE SECOND STORY WAS ABOUT A WOMAN WHO HAD TEN COINS OF SILVER (MONEY). SHE LOST ONE OF THE COINS IN HER HOUSE.

SHE WANTED VERY MUCH TO FIND HER COIN, SO SHE GOT HER LIGHT BURNING BRIGHTLY, SO SHE COULD SEE BETTER. THEN SHE TOOK HER BROOM AND SWEEPED THE FLOOR, TRYING TO FIND HER LOST COIN. SHE LOOKED AND LOOKED, VERY CAREFULLY, TILL SHE FOUND HER COIN. THEN SHE CALLED HER FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TOGETHER. SHE TOLD THEM, "BE HAPPY WITH ME, I HAVE FOUND MY COIN."

THEN JESUS SAID, "THE ANGELS IN HEAVEN HAVE THAT MUCH JOY AND HAPPINESS WHEN ONE PERSON GETS SAVED."

③ THE THIRD STORY WAS ABOUT A MAN AND HIS TWO SONS. THE YOUNGER SON TOLD HIS FATHER THAT HE WANTED HIS PART OF THE FAMILY'S MONEY. THE MAN GAVE THE YOUNGER SON HIS PART OF MONEY, JUST LIKE THE SON HAD ASKED.

A FEW DAYS AFTER THAT THE YOUNGER SON GATHERED UP EVERYTHING THAT BELONGED TO HIM AND LEFT HOME! HE WENT FAR, FAR AWAY. WHEN HE GOT TO THE FAR-AWAY COUNTRY, HE WASTED ALL OF HIS MONEY ON PARTIES AND FOOLISH THINGS THAT HE REALLY DID NOT NEED.

SOON HE RAN OUT OF FOOD BECAUSE HE HAD SPENT ALL HIS MONEY AND NOW THERE WAS A TERRIBLE FAMINE IN THIS COUNTRY. NOW HE WAS SO HUNGRY HE WAS AFRAID HE WAS GOING TO STARVE.

FINALLY HE FOUND A JOB WORKING FOR

A MAN, FEEDING HIS PIGS. THE SON WAS A JEW AND JEWS DID NOT EVEN TOUCH PIGS BECAUSE PIGS WERE ONE OF THE ANIMALS GOD TOLD THEM TO STAY AWAY FROM. (BECAUSE THEY WERE SO UNCLEAN)

BUT THE SON HAD TO HAVE A JOB, SO HE TOOK THE DIRTY JOB. NOW THE SON WAS SO HUNGRY THAT HE EVEN WISHED HE COULD HAVE SOME OF THE PIG'S OLD FOOD.

THEN THE SON THOUGHT ABOUT HIS FATHER'S FARM. THE SON THOUGHT, "EVERY SERVANT THAT WORKS FOR MY FATHER ON THE FARM HAS PLENTY TO EAT, AND HERE I AM WAY OFF BY MYSELF STARVING! I WILL GO HOME TO MY FATHER'S FARM AND TELL HIM HOW SORRY I AM FOR THE TERRIBLE THINGS I'VE DONE. THEN I'LL ASK HIM IF HE WILL LET ME BE ONE OF HIS SERVANTS SINCE I HAVEN'T BEEN A GOOD SON."

HE STARTED THE LONG TRIP HOME. WHEN HE HAD TRAVELED A LONG TIME, AND WAS ALMOST HOME, HE LOOKED UP AND SAW HIS FATHER RUNNING TO MEET HIM.

HIS FATHER HUGGED AND HUGGED HIM AND KISSED HIM, TOO.

THE SON SAID, "FATHER, I HAVE SINNED AGAINST GOD AND AGAINST YOU."

HIS FATHER LOVED HIM SO MUCH THAT HE FORGAVE HIM. THE FATHER GAVE HIM NEW CLOTHES, NEW SHOES, AND A RING. AND THE FATHER HAD A PARTY TO CELEBRATE BECAUSE HIS SON CAME HOME.