

# **“The Father of the Prodigal”**

## **Luke 15:1-7**

### Introduction

- I. Through parables and other teachings, we can come to an understanding of certain things.
- II. One such parable demonstrates to us the relationship between God, the Father and His children.
  - A. God the Father never forces anyone to obey and follow Him.
  - B. God the Father rejoices when His children repent.
  - C. God the Father wants all of His children to be blessed.

### Discussion

- I. God the Father never forces anyone to obey and follow Him (Luke 15:11-16).
  - A. In the parable, the father lets the prodigal son make his own choices.
  - B. Today, God allows us the freedom of choice (Deut. 30:19-20; Jos. 24:15; Ezek. 18:30-32; Matt. 7:13-14; cf. 1 Cor. 15:1-4; Rev. 2:10).
- II. God the Father rejoices when His children repent (Luke 15:17-24).
  - A. There is no doubt as to the repentance of the prodigal son (Luke 15:18-19).
  - B. God longs for our repentance (2 Pet. 3:9; Acts 17:30-31; 1 Tim. 2:3-4).
- III. God the Father wants all of His children to be blessed (Luke 15:25-32).
  - A. In the parable, the Father blesses his son for returning home.
  - B. Likewise, the Father wanted his other son to enjoy his blessings.
  - C. All Christians should rejoice together for our blessings (2 Cor. 2:6-11; Gal. 6:1; James 5:19-20; Jude 22-23; cf. John 8:1-12).

### Conclusion

- I. The parables of Jesus are a wealth of teachings.
- II. Through one parable, we can learn that God the Father allows us choice, rejoices when His children repent, and wants all of His children to be blessed.