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Wyatt Sawyer Sermon Outlines

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## The Value Of Lost Things

Wyatt Sawyer

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#1315

THE VALUE OF LOST THINGS..... (1)

INT: Any Bible lesson must be fitted into the framework of its CONTEXT:

NOTE: Bible, Gr. word: BIBLOS - the BOOK.

Not ONE Book, but library of 66 books.

Two main divisions: O.T. for Jews.

N.T. for all mankind.

O.T. - 39 books: 5 Law. 12 History.

5 poetry. 5 Major prophets.

12 Minor prophets.

N. T.- 27 books: Biog. Hist. Pauline Epis.

Gen Epis. & [redacted] prophecy.

(5-B. 1-H. 14-P. Epis.

7-Gen. Epis.

1- Prophecy-Rev.

OUR STUDY:

In 3rd book of N. T. - 3rd Acct. of Life of Christ.

Luke 15:1-10. 2 of 3 lost items. Sh. Coin. So

QUESTION: Why Jesus tell these 3 parables?

Context: Lk. 15:1-3. *with same point, 2 for men, 1 for women.*

*Goal:*  
1. Explain VALUE of Sheep, coins, children

*also:*  
2. Caution: about carelessness in handling possessions-animate or inanimate !!!

DEFINITION OF PARABLE:

Spiritual Lesson drawn from material objects. *Parables*

QUESTION: more for the benefit of the *sinners & tax collectors; Pharisees & scribes; or mass of people listening?*

✓ WITH YOUR PERMISSION: Virtually  
by-passing the Lost Sheep story.

(2)

SITUATION: 100 sheep. Shepherd. 1 strayed away.  
99 grazing contentedly. Which in danger?

Wise to abandon the 99 to seek just one?

What Shepherd did! Dog could handle flock!!!

QUESTION of Interest and Emphasis: Which  
sheep needed attention? Which people???

1 rascal-sheep got all the attention. True.  
99 loved and appreciated for behaving.

### PARABLE OF THE LOST COIN:

Had 10. 1 missing. No big deal!! WAS TOO!

Lit a lamp and started looking feverishly.

Swept all the straw out of the house in  
frantic search. (straw floors - coin like  
needle in a hay-stack.) Seized with  
panic! Furious house-cleaning ensued  
until COIN found. Why so Important?

#### I. SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES:

1. Coin, the value of a day's meals.  
Reflect on her custody of family  
resources-poor BANK. No meal one day.  
(Problem: 9 days off, why so frantic?)
2. Romantic adornment: 10 coins on  
necklas, bracelet or frontlets.  
✓ Favorite boy=friend's gift. One gone,  
incur his disfavor. Why hurry tho?
3. Social Obligation. Keeping another's  
treasure. Just looking at them !!!  
No harm meant. Unworthy friend tho.  
(Still, why such a hurry????)

Ans: Probably Key Question.

4. CRISIS: To be or not to be: MARRIED. (3)

Custom: Girls had dowrys--carried into the union. 10 coins qualified !!!

STORY: A Jewish maiden within hours of her wedding to some fine young man. Not possible on only 9 coins

THEN, JUST STAY SINGLE! Terrible! Death!

Three choices for Unmarried girls:

1. Slavery at Home. Scullery maid.
2. Prostitution at Market Place..
3. Starvation. How valuable 1 coin?

## II. WHAT WAS THE POINT?

*Look* 1. Value of lost things in earthly affairs. Leave 99. Ignore the 9.

2. Had to do with Life & Death, Heaven & Hell, Time & Eternity, the Body and the Soul.

3. LESSON: Someday<sup>a</sup>---<sup>in</sup>the first hours of Eternity----all mankind will understand the Value of Spiritual Salvation of the Soul. (Too late to change then!)

b. Souls of Sinners & Tax Collectors  
"worth more than all the world---

"Let's SAVE THEM"-- to Jewish Leaders.

c. The soul never dies. Exists forever somewhere! NOW is just right time

To take stock of Spr. condition and  
PREPARE TO MEET OUR GOD.