

# “THE JOURNEY OF THE PRODIGAL SON”

Joshua 1:2 Fellowship

Pastor Mike Suarez Sr.

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## **LUKE 15:11-13**

Something happened in the life of the younger son that led him to make a bad decision and leave his father's house. Something happened to his heart that he wanted to go out to the world and see what he was missing. **The devil is what happened!** He was listening to the voice of the destroyer that he was wasting his time serving his father. Satan was able to fill his heart with the desires of the world and managed to kill the love he had for his father. The younger son did not love his father anymore and this is the main reason he went away in a long journey to a 'Distant Country.'

What was the Journey the Prodigal son took?

## **THE JOURNEY INTO A DISTANT COUNTRY**

**LUKE 15:13** - “And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living.”

The younger son took that step to walk away from his father. The desire to leave his father that had been injected by the devil finally came to pass. Before any Christian yields to temptation and gives into sin, the devil has to put desire in his heart for that particular sin. After the devil has successfully filled that heart with '**Desire**' then he can tempt you. The Christian will eventually fall away like the younger son if he does not repent of that “**Ungodly Desire.**”



**James 1:14-15** – “But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when

lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.”

The younger son's heart was not filled anymore with a love for his father, but with a lust for the world. **That sin in his heart killed the love he had for his father!** This was the main reason that he left his father's house and went to a distant country and indulges in sin. It was there in that 'Distant Country' that he spent and squanders all that his Father had given him. The devil stripped him of all that his father had given him.

**Luke 15:14** – “Now when he had spent everything, ...”

That Journey to the 'Distant Country' stripped him of all that the father had given him. The Journey continues and it gets worse!

## **THE JOURNEY TO THE PIG'S PEN**

The Bible reveals that **after the devil had stripped him** of all that his father had given him, a severe famine occurred in that country.

**Luke 15:14** - “Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be impoverished.”

The devil had led him to the distant country to strip him of all that his father had given him. For the Christian who follows the footsteps of the younger son, this is all that God has given you.

Why was it important for the devil to '**Strip him**' of all that his father had given him?

Because now that he had nothing and was empty, the devil was able **to lead him** to the **PIG'S PEN!** (Indulging in sins you never did before.)

The devil is now leading the Prodigal Son in his 'Journey to the Pig's Pen.' The Bible says that the younger son was starving now.

**"... And he began to starve."** Luke 15:14 NLT

Nothing of the world could satisfy that hunger he had. The younger son finds himself now working in the devil's pig's pen. I believe that Satan wanted for him to go deeper into his domain of darkness, just like King Saul turned to witchcraft.



The Bible reveals to us, that he wanted and desired to eat what the pigs were eating.

**Luke 15:16** "And he would have gladly filled his stomach with the pods that the swine were eating, and no one was giving anything to him."

The devil made sure that no one gave him anything. He wanted to destroy him.

**"... And no one was giving anything to him."** Luke 15:16

In the Prodigal's Journey to the pig's pen, he came close to going all the way with the devil and maybe, was lost forever. King Saul was lost. He went deeper into darkness and witchcraft. But thank God that the devil was not the only one on that Journey the Prodigal Son took. The Holy Spirit was there all the time trying to get his attention to make his way back to his father's house.

### **THE JOURNEY BACK TO THE FATHER**

It was at the pig's pen where the Prodigal Son was at his lowest and there he came to his senses! But he was at crossroads in his life, God or the devil.

**Luke 15:17** - "But when he came to his senses, he said, How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger!"

The Holy Spirit was finally able to get his attention and help him come to his senses. He came to the conclusion that nothing of the world would satisfy that hunger he had. The devil had lied to him.

**"... But I am dying here with hunger!"**

He made a decision with the help of the Holy Spirit to 'get up' and go back to his father.

**Luke 15:18** - "**I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight;**

Finally the Prodigal Son has come to his senses and now is making his way back to his father's house. He



understood that he had sinned against his father and God. The convicting power of the Holy Spirit was upon him now. Now, with a repentant heart, a humble heart, and a

broken heart and through his great failure he was on his 'Journey back to his father.' He came to the understanding that if he was to fulfill his destiny in life, he had to get right with his father and God. I believe he was more grateful to his father and God as he tasted the mercy, forgiveness and love of God. His love for his father and God was even deeper in his heart. When he experienced the Forgiveness and Love of God, through his father he was never the same anymore.

### **IN WHAT AREA DO YOU HAVE TO COME TO YOUR SENSES AND 'GET UP' AND COME BACK TO?**

- Back to your First Love?
- Back to loving your spouse?
- Back to your prayer closet?
- Back to trusting God again?
- Back to serving God with all your heart?

### **WHAT 'PIG'S PEN' ARE YOU IN?**

- Discouragement?
- Depression?
- Unbelief?
- Backsliding?

### **REPENT, GET UP AND MAKE YOUR JOURNEY BACK TO GOD.**