

SINS OF THE PRODIGAL SON

By Keith Greer

Jesus, the master teacher, often used parables in his teaching. Parables are earthly stories with some spiritual meaning. This one is found in Luke 15:11-24.

Sin is a choice we make. The son could have stayed home with his father and brother. He chose to leave and would be held accountable by his choice. All of us decide the path we will walk and the direction our lives will take.

Sin is a journey away from God. When the prodigal son left home it took him into a "far country." While in that country he wasted his inheritance with riotous living. Sin, in any form, will always separate one from God. When one travels the path of sin it will always take him away from God!

We will reap what we sow. A principle which has always been so. "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life." (Galatians 6: 7,8) What a contrast from the beginning of his journey to the end. He had money, friends, seemingly good times, and freedom. At the end his money is gone, he had no friends, was starving, feeding swine, and in the bondage of sin!

Sin has consequences! "Good understanding gains favor, but the way of the unfaithful is hard." {Proverbs 13:15} Sadly, many today must learn this lesson the hard way. One can choose the life of sin and the path to temporal pleasures. Yet, all of this comes with a price. The devil is never going to tell one what he will pay to travel this course- but God has. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." {Romans 6:23}

One can either learn from the mistakes of the prodigal son or repeat them! God gave us these lessons so history would not have to repeat itself in our own lives. ***