

“The Parable of the Older Brother”

Luke 15:25-32

All 3 parables in Luke 15 have ____ main characters - one authority figure and 2 contrasting characters. The authority figure represents _____. The “good” character represents those who are _____ to the Lord. The “bad” character represents either a lost _____ or a backslidden _____.

In the parable of the prodigal son, we would assume that the _____ brother represents those who are saved. However, at the end of the parable Jesus reveals that both brothers were _____. Therefore, the older brother actually represents those who _____ they are saved. He thought he was saved because he did a lot of good _____.

The older brother was actually living in _____ against his father just like his younger brother, but, he never received forgiveness because he was not willing to _____.

There are 3 reasons we _____ the older brother was lost.

1. He Considered _____ the Result of Good Works.

2. He Refused to _____ His Own Sins.

A. I Served Faithfully - He _____ His Responsibilities.

B. I’ve Never Disobeyed You - He _____ You.

C. I’ve Never Been Given a _____ - He Got the Fattened Calf.

Comparing ourselves with others makes us _____ good about ourselves. Unfortunately, that’s not the way God _____ us. He doesn’t compare us with other sinners, He compares us with His own _____ (Rom 3:10, 3:23).

3. He Declined His Father’s _____.

The older brother was invited to come in to the father’s _____, but he refused.

Forgiveness Think Righteousness Goat Repent Faithful
Invitation Older 3 Rebellion Insulted Christian House Feel
Works God Confess Abandoned Lost Judges Know Sinner