

A person in a dark, long-sleeved robe is walking away from the viewer on a vast, golden sand dune. The person's path is marked by a series of footprints in the sand. The sky above is a clear, deep blue. The overall scene is serene and expansive.

THE
PARABLE
OF THE

PRODIGAL
SON

THE TWO LOST SONS **Luke 15:11-32**

First we have the story of the scandalous son **Luke 15:11-24**

To begin with there were *the far horizons*.

- Just before this in the story of the **LOST COIN**, it is the Holy Spirit who is at work.
- In the parable of the **TWO SONS**, it is the father who predominates.

The lure of faraway places took hold of the younger son's soul.

LOOK AT THE PRODIGAL'S LONG DISTANCE TRAVEL PLANS

- The distance measured by God is expressed in terms of morals—not miles.

LOOK AT HIS LOCAL LIVING PLANS

- Party hearty. Live it up. He spent everything!
- He lived exactly by the world's methods—me first others last—narcissistic.

Finally, he woke up and began to think of his father's house.

He almost lost hope, BUT, Father God!

God is always swift to forgive and in a hurry to save. **Isa. 65:24**

Here is the story of the ***Prodigal Son***, the whole story of the **RUIN** and **REDEMPTION** of poor, wayward sinners of Adam's race—**YOU AND ME.**

There was another son, a *SANCTIMONIOUS OLDER SON* (Luke 15:25-32). Pious Frauds.

- Their sins arise from their disposition; they are spiteful, jealous, moody, selfish, self-righteous, and bad tempered.
- He hated his brother who had come home.
- Punish him, Father, don't throw a party for him!

Are you one of those who cannot rejoice when God does a miracle in someone's life?

But, the elder brother had a huge problem.

- His robe of righteousness was full of holes.
- The father loved that mean-spirited, hypocritical elder brother just as much as he loved the prodigal.
- This part of the parable was clearly pointed at the Scribes and the Pharisees—the Jews.

In our story, **ISRAEL** was the elder brother, the **GENTILES** the Prodigal.

**BUT NO MATTER HOW YOU GET LOST,
JESUS WANTS YOU TO COME HOME.**