

LEARNING to SEEK the LOST



- WE NEED TO BE AT THE FEET OF JESUS ...
 - LEARNING to LISTEN to Jesus so we can serve Him properly — (Luke 10:38–42)
 - LEARNING about the authority & value of scripture and how to use them (Luke 2:41-50; 4:1-13)
 - LEARNING how to deal With REJECTION (Luke 4:16–30)

LEARNING to SEEK the LOST



- WE NEED TO BE AT THE FEET OF JESUS ...
 - LEARNING to TRUST in His AUTHORITY ... "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth" (Mt. 28:19).
 - LEARNING to SEEK the LOST

 "... ³² I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance." (Luke 5:10, 27-32; 15:1-31; Matthew 9:10-13; Mark 2:15-17)

Luke 5:27–32 (NKJV)

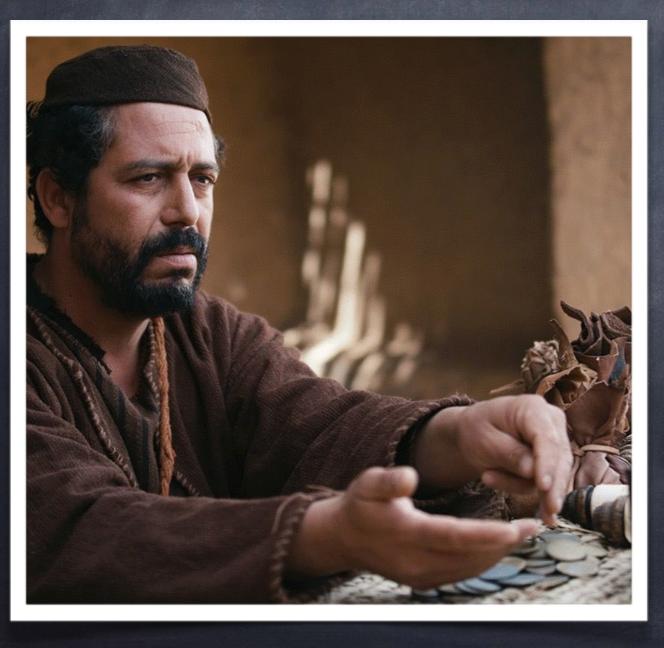
²⁷ After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me." 28 So he left all, rose up, and followed Him. 29 Then Levi gave Him a great feast in his own house. And there were a great number of tax collectors and others who sat down with them. ³⁰ And their scribes and the Pharisees complained against His disciples, saying, "Why do You eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

Luke 5:27-32 (NKJV)

31 Jesus answered and said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ³² I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

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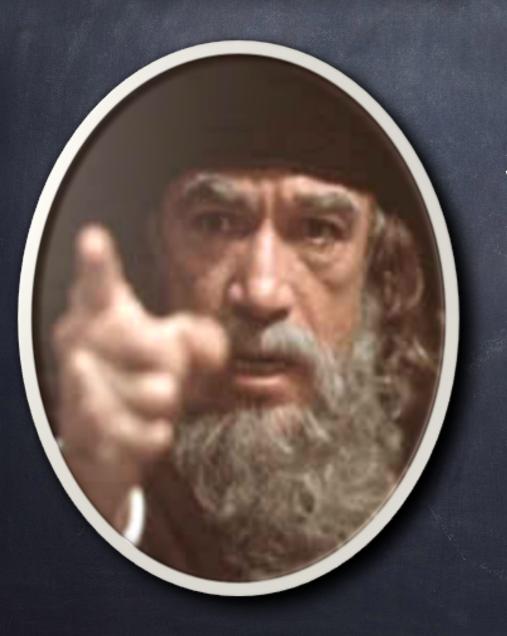
JESUS @ MATTHEW's HOUSE



- Jesus calls Matthew, not your prototypical target Mat. 9:9; Mark 2:13, 14
- Matthew, (Levi), gives a feast with a "great number of tax collectors and sinners"
 cf. Mt 9:10; Mk 2:15
 - There is a sharp contrast between Jesus & the Pharisees in their attitudes toward sinners ...

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Contrasting Attitudes: Pharisees / Jesus



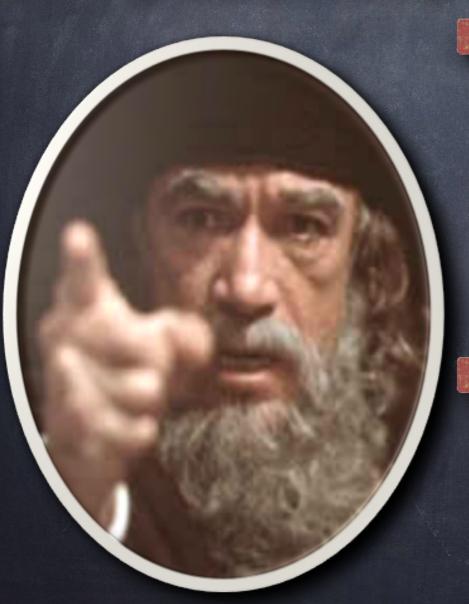
Luke 5:30 (NKJV)

And their scribes and the Pharisees complained against His disciples, saying, "Why do You eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

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Contrasting Attitudes: Pharisees / Jesus

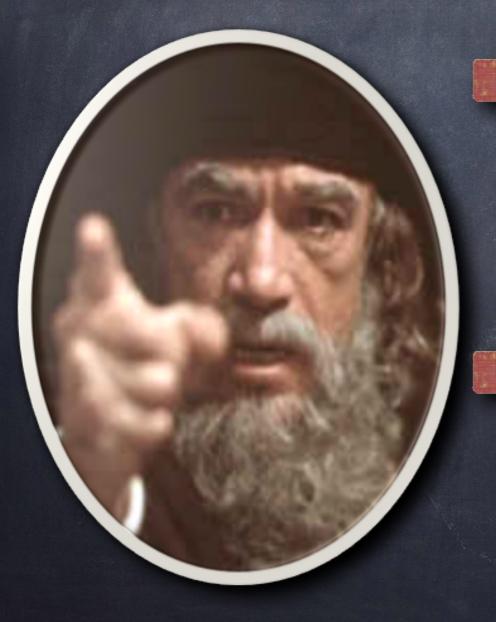


- Zacchaeus a chief tax collector
 Luke 19:1-9
 - Part when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."
- The Pharisee & Tax Collector Luke 18:9-14
 - ⁹ He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

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Contrasting Attitudes: Pharisees / Jesus



- Matthew 9:11 ... "Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" Cf. Mk 2:15–17; Lk 5:29–32
 - Luke 7:34,39 ... ³⁴ ... 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' ...

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Contrasting Attitudes: Pharisees / Jesus

Luke 7:34-39 (NKJV)

... 36 Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. 37 And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, 38 and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. ...

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Contrasting Attitudes: Pharisees / Jesus

Luke 7:34-39 (NKJV)

³⁹ Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw *this,* he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman *this is* who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."

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Contrasting Attitudes: Pharisees / Jesus

Luke 7:40-43 (NKJV)

40 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it." 41 "There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged."

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Contrasting Attitudes: Pharisees / Jesus

Luke 7:44-50 (NKJV)

⁴⁴ Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. ⁴⁵ You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. ⁴⁶ You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil.

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Contrasting Attitudes: Pharisees / Jesus

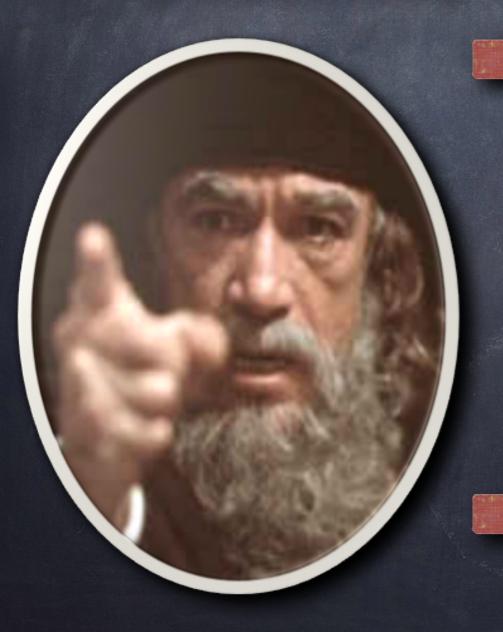
Luke 7:44-50 (NKJV)

⁴⁷ Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." 48 Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." 49 And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" 50 Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

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Contrasting Attitudes: Pharisees / Jesus



- Luke 15:1–2 ¹ Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. ² And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, "This Man receives sinners and eats with them."
- Jesus responds with a parabolic triptych . . .

LEARNING to SEEK the LOST

"This Man receives sinners and eats with them."

Jesus responds with a parabolic triptych . . .

THE LOST
"SHEEP"



Luke 15:1-7

THE LOST
"COIN"



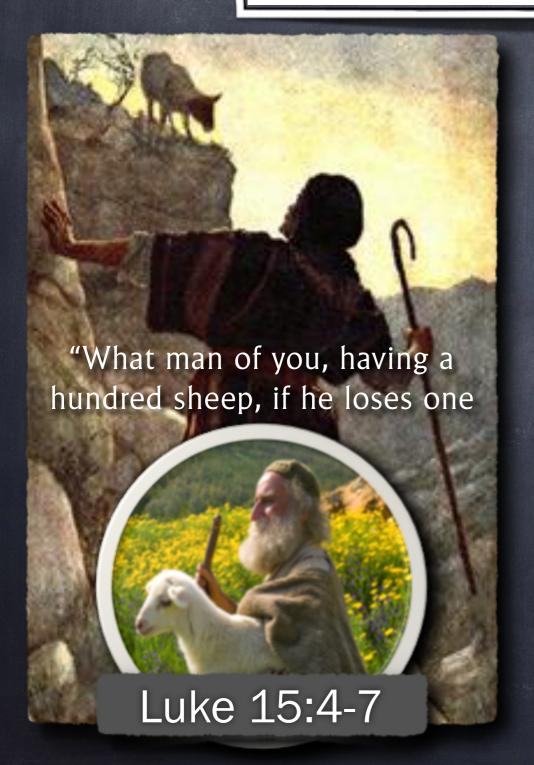
Luke 15:8-10

THE LOST
"SON"



Luke 15:11-32

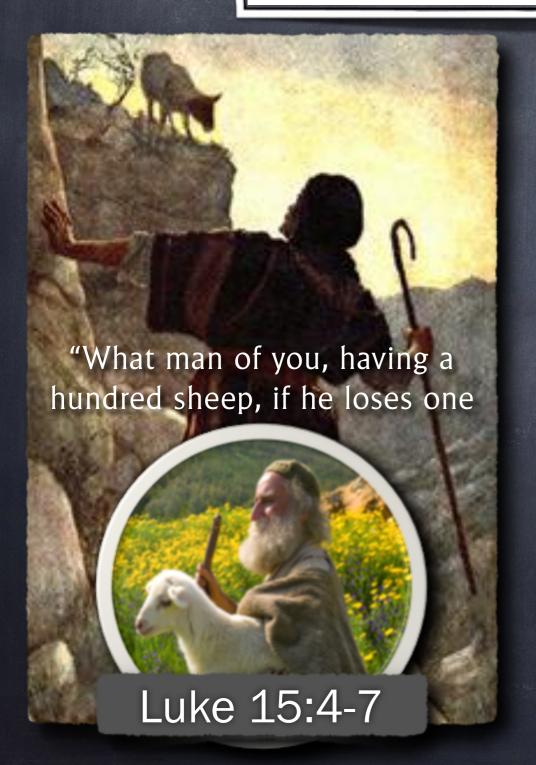
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"THE LOST SHEEP"

- What do shepherds do when a lamb goes astray? (Luke 15:4)
- How does the shepherd react when the lost sheep is found? (Luke 15:5,6)
- What does the shepherd's reaction indicate about the value of the sheep that was lost and found?

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"THE LOST SHEEP"

LUKE 15:7 (NKJV)

⁷ I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

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"THE LOST COIN"

- She placed great value on each coin – (days wage, wedding headdress - She knew what she had or she would not have known one was missing)
- Demonstrated in her diligent search for the one that was lost — (Luke 15:8)
- Rejoiced when she found it! (Luke 15:9)

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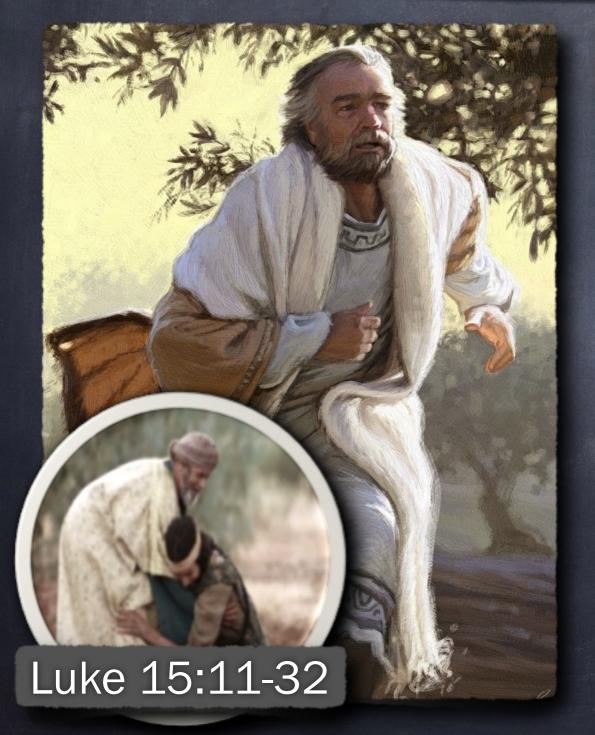
"THE LOST COIN"

LUKE 15:9-10 (NKJV)

⁹ And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!' ¹⁰ Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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- The prodigal son made a conscious decision to leave home & waste his inheritance on sinful pleasure – (Lk 15:11-13)
- The wayward son came to realize the high cost of sin -(Lk 15:14-16)
- He came to realize he would be MUCH better off going home - (Lk 15:17-19)

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- The LOST son made the decision to swallow his pride & return home — (What did he expect if he returned? What was he willing to accept?)- (Luke 15:18,19)
- The son arose and went home -(Luke 15:20)
- The FATHER's response: He saw him ... He ran ... He embraced ... He kissed - (Luke 15:20)

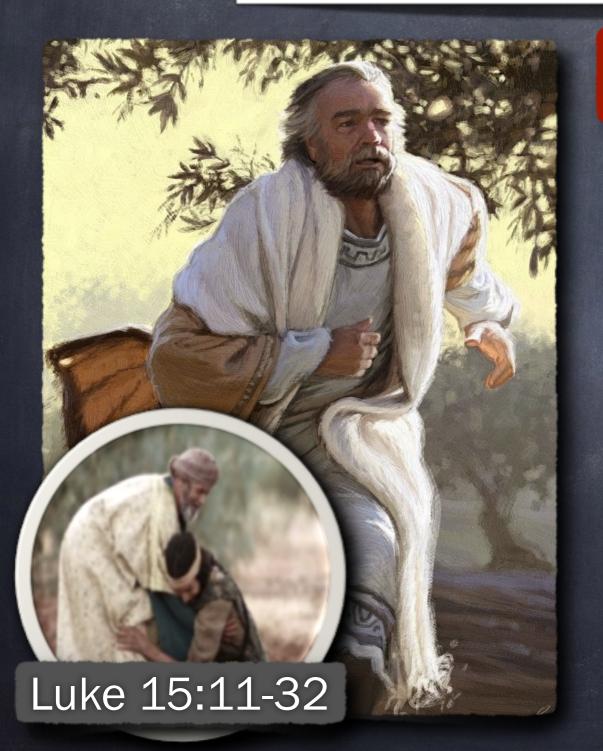
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- The son's confession (I have sinned,,, not worthy to be called your son ... make me a hired servant) - (15:21)
- The FATHER gladly receives the son adorns him with with a robe
 ... a ring ... & sandals (15:22)
- The FATHER has a feast prepared to celebrate - (Luke 15:23)

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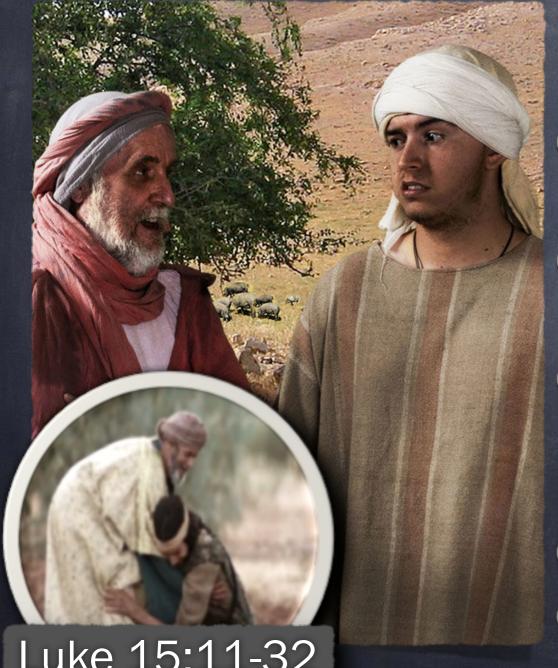


"THE LOST SON"

LUKE 15:24 (NKJV)
²⁴ for this my son was
dead and is alive
again; he was lost and
is found.' And they
began to be merry.

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Luke 15:11-32

- The ANGER of the older son "He would not go in" — (15:25-28)
- The FATHER goes out and pleads with the older son - (15:28)
- The son makes his case why the younger son should not be treated so well — (15:29-30)
- Did the father do wrong?
- How should the older son have reacted?

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"THE LOST SON"

LUKE 15:31-32 (NKJV) ³¹ "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. 32 It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found."

LEARNING to SEEK the LOST

FOUR TYPES OF LOST SINNERS



• LOST SHEEP - knew it was lost, did not know the way home (had to be led home)



 LOST COIN - did not know it was lost, did not know the way home (had to be found)



 LOST SON - knew he was lost, knew the way home (had to decide)



 ELDER BROTHER - did not know he was lost (needed to learn of his condition)

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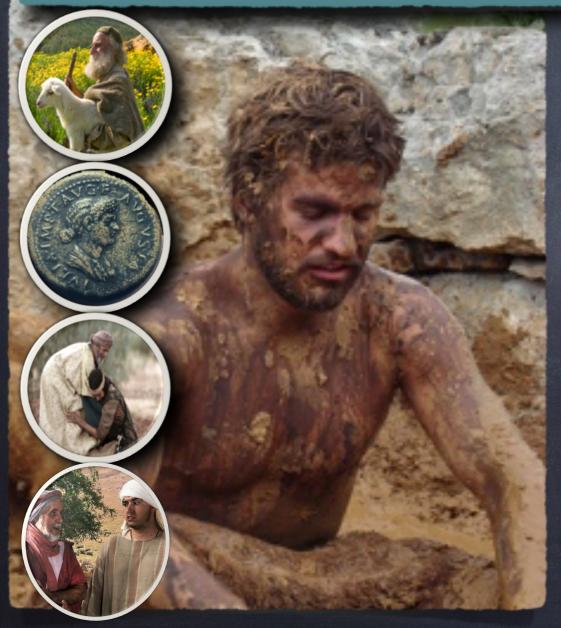
THE LOSTNESS OF THE LOST



- Sinners **NEVER** lose their **VALUE** Mat. 16:26
 - They lose their way ...
 - They lose their usefulness ...
 - They lose their relationship with God, His children & their blessedness ...
 - They lose their souls ...

LEARNING to SEEK the LOST

IMPORTANT LESSONS



- The State of The Lost Eph 2:12; 1 Thes 4:13
- The Love God Has For The Lost Jn 3:16; Rom 5:8-10; 2 Cor 5:19-21
- The Rejoicing In Heaven For The Penitent – vs 7,10
- The Value of The Lost Mat 18:14;
 1 Pet 1:18-21
- Our Attitude & Actions Toward The Lost vs 32; Ro 9:1-5; 10:1

LEARNING to SEEK the LOST

DO WE SEE OURSELVES IN ANY OF THESE PARABLES?

Like Jesus? The Lost Sheep?

Like the Pharisees? The Lost Coin?

One of the two debtors? The Lost Son?

The Shepherd? The Eldest Son?

The Woman? The Loving Father?

WE ARE TO BE THE SALT OF THE

EARTH & LIGHT

OF THE WORLD!

MAT. 5:13-16

JOHN 4:34-36 (NKJV)

35 ... Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!





LUKE 19:1-10 (NKJV)

¹ Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. ² Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. ³ And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. 5 And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house."

LUKE 19:1-10 (NKJV)

⁶ So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. 7 But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." 8 Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." 9 And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; ¹⁰ for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."