

The Joy of the Lost Sheep – Luke 15:1-7

I. Jesus Kept Company With The Lost Sheep (v. 1-2)

- A. The outcasts of society were coming to Jesus (1)
 - 1. tax collectors
 - 2. sinners
- B. The religious men complained about his company (2)
 - 1. Pharisees were grumbling
 - 2. Jesus was receiving sinners
 - 3. Jesus was eating with sinners
 - a. This was to have fellowship with
 - b. They saw it as his acceptance of them

II. Jesus Rejoices When the Sheep Are Found (3-7)

- A. The good shepherd searches, finds, and rescues the sheep (3-5)
 - 1. Every Shepherd will search for a lost sheep
 - a. Even if a shepherd had 100 sheep
 - b. He would leave the 99 and search for 1
 - c. He will search till he finds it
 - Jesus did this for us
 - we were the lost sheep
 - 2. Every Shepherd will Bring the sheep Home (5)
 - a. He throws it on his shoulder and carries it
 - full grown sheep is 100 pounds
 - take a great effort to carry
 - Jesus carried our burden
- B. The good shepherd rejoices at the sheep's return(6-7)
 - 1. The shepherd calls his friends to rejoice (6)
 - a. It is just a sheep – represents money, business
 - b. He rejoices because he has kept his investments
 - 2. Heaven rejoices over a lost sheep's return (7)
 - a. How much more is man in God's image worth
 - b. He is more valuable than a sheep
 - c. Jesus chases after the lost, not those already found

III. Believer's Must Rejoice When the Lost are found

- A. Jesus rejoices
- B. Heaven Rejoices
- C. The Church must rejoice
 - 1. The church was once the lost sheep
 - 2. the church was once found by the shepherd.