



Father's Day

June 19, 2022

Ephesians 6 ¹ Children, *if you want to be wise*, listen to your parents and do what they tell you, and the Lord will help you. ² For the commandment, "Honor your father and your mother," was the first of the *Ten Commandments* with a promise attached: ³ "You will prosper and live a long, full life *if you honor your parents.*" ⁴ Fathers, don't exasperate your children, but raise them up with loving discipline and counsel that brings the revelation of our Lord. TPT

Genesis 1 ²⁶ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule..." ²⁷ **God created man in His own image**, in the image of God He created him; **male and female He created them.** ²⁸ **God blessed them**; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it..." NASU

Spirit Filled Life Bible: Mercy, *chesed* (cheh-sed); Strong's #2617: "**Completely undeserved, kindness and generosity**"

Ephesians 1 ⁴ And **he chose us to be his very own, joining us to himself even before he laid the foundation of the universe! Because of his great love**, he ordained us, so that we would be seen as holy in his eyes with an unstained innocence. ⁵⁻⁶ For it was always in his perfect plan to adopt us as his delightful children, through our union with Jesus, the Anointed One, so that his tremendous love that cascades over us would glorify his grace—for **the same love he has for his Beloved One, Jesus, he has for us.** And this unfolding plan brings him great pleasure! TPT

Malachi 4 ⁵ "Look, I am sending you the prophet Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the Lord arrives. ⁶ His preaching will turn the hearts of fathers to their children, and the hearts of children to their fathers. Otherwise I will come and strike the land with a curse." TPT

Luke 15 ¹¹ Then Jesus said, "Once there was **a father** with two sons. ¹² The younger son came to his father and said, 'Father, don't you think it's time to give me the share of your estate that belongs to me?' So the father went ahead and distributed among the two sons their inheritance. ¹³ Shortly afterward, the younger son packed up all his belongings and traveled off to see the world. He journeyed to a far-off land where he soon wasted all he was given in a binge of extravagant and reckless living. ¹⁴ "With everything spent and nothing left, he grew hungry, for there was a severe famine in that land. ¹⁵ So he begged a farmer in that country to hire him. The farmer hired him and sent him out to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ The son was so famished, he was willing to even eat the slop given to the pigs, because no one would feed him a thing. ¹⁷ "Humiliated, the son finally realized what he was doing and he thought, 'There are many workers at my father's house who have all the food they want with plenty to spare. They lack nothing. Why am I here dying of hunger, feeding these pigs and eating their slop?' ¹⁸ I want to go back home to my father's house, and I'll say to him, 'Father, I was wrong. I have sinned against you. ¹⁹ I'll never be worthy to be called your son. Please, Father, just treat me like one of your employees.'" ²⁰ "So the young son set off for home. From a long distance away, his father saw him coming, *dressed as a beggar*, and great compassion swelled up in his heart for his son who was returning home. So the father raced out to meet him. He swept him up in his arms, hugged him dearly, and kissed him over and over with tender love. ²¹ "Then the son said, 'Father, I was wrong. I have sinned against you. I could never deserve to be called your son. Just let me be—' "The father interrupted and said, 'Son, you're home now!' ²² "Turning to his servants, the father said, 'Quick, bring me the best robe, my very own robe, and I will place it on his shoulders. Bring the ring, the seal of sonship, and I will put it on his finger. And bring out the best shoes you can find for my son. ²³ Let's *prepare a great*

feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this beloved son of mine was once dead, but now he's alive again. Once he was lost, but now he is found!' And everyone celebrated with overflowing joy. ²⁵ "Now, the older son was out working in the field when his brother returned, and as he approached the house he heard the music of celebration and dancing. ²⁶ So he called over one of the servants and asked, 'What's going on?' ²⁷ "The servant replied, 'It's your younger brother. He's returned home and your father is throwing a party to celebrate his homecoming.' ²⁸ "The older son became angry and refused to go in and celebrate. So his father came out and pleaded with him, 'Come and enjoy the feast with us!' ²⁹ "The son said, 'Father, listen! How many years have I been working like a slave for you, performing every duty you've asked as a faithful son? And I've never once disobeyed you. But you've never thrown a party for me because of my faithfulness. Never once have you even given me a goat that I could feast on and celebrate with my friends like he's doing now.' ³⁰ But look at this son of yours! He comes back after wasting your wealth on prostitutes and reckless living, and here you are throwing a great feast to celebrate—for him!' ³¹ "The father said, 'My son, you are always with me by my side. Everything I have is yours to enjoy. ³² It's only right to celebrate like this and be overjoyed, because this brother of yours was once dead and gone, but now he is alive and back with us again. He was lost but now he is found!'"
TPT

The father gave the son what he asked for (inheritance).

The father respected the son's choice and let him go even though it grieved the father and he knew it was not a wise choice (free will). The father never left the son, the son left the father; that began with a wrong desire.

The journey to a distant country far from the safety of father's house was a long process.

The son did not know how to handle his inheritance (lost it all). Isaiah 48:17

The son began to experience a curse (poverty) because the way of the transgressor is hard. But the father did not curse him. You reap what you sow.

The son hired himself out (slavery) to a stranger because no one helped him away from father's house. Romans 6:16 Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? NASU

Feeding swine was unclean to him.

The father was still his father but it did the son no good because he was away from the father.

The father was still prosperous. He did not force his love on the son.

The son had lost his senses when he left father's house. But the son remembered the father's love when he came to his senses. The son decided to repent and confess his sins and go back to his father.

When he got up and went back to his father the father saw him afar off because he was looking for him.

The father felt compassion for the son (even though the son didn't deserve it) and ran to him and kissed him.

The father did not punish his son but instead (without the son asking for it) he restored him to his place as son (wealth, position, authority).

The father did not say "I told you so," or say "you must be punished for your sins." He was overjoyed that his son was back. There was music and dancing about the son.

The father loved the older son just as much as the younger son and gave him his inheritance.

The older son always enjoyed the covenant benefits of wealth and safety in father's house just because he stayed there (not because he deserved it.) The father's yoke is easy.

The older son grieved the father because he would not accept his younger brother. The older son showed no compassion but only condemnation. He was self-righteous, jealous, stingy, and complaining even though he never had to endure pain and poverty.

The father had to remind the older son that the younger son was his brother, and it was right to celebrate his return.

Jesus came to seek and save that which is lost.