

# THE KISS OF RESTORATION

## TEXT:

***1 John 3:1, KJV Behold, what manner of LOVE the FATHER hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not.***

**NOTE:** In the following story (Lk. 15:11-20), the FATHER is a picture of our HEAVENLY FATHER. The word “PRODIGAL” means, “a WASTER”—there were TWO prodigals portrayed in these verses:

- a. One who STRAYED – the YOUNGER son.
- b. One who STAYED – the OLDER son (the OLD order).

***Luke 15:11-20, KJV And he said, A certain man had TWO SONS:  
12 And the YOUNGER of them said to his father, Father, GIVE ME the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.***

***13 And not many days after the YOUNGER SON gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there WASTED (scatter, throw away) his substance with riotous living.***

***14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.***

***15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.***

***16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.***

***17 And when he CAME TO HIMSELF, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!***

***18 I WILL ARISE AND GO TO MY FATHER, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,***

***19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: MAKE ME as one of thy hired servants.***

**Luke 15:20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was YET A GREAT WAY OFF, his father SAW him, and HAD COMPASSION, and RAN, and FELL ON HIS NECK, and KISSED him.**

## **FIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE FATHER'S LOVE**

### **1. WHEN HE WAS YET A GREAT WAY OFF, HIS FATHER SAW HIM...**

- a. BEFORE we were BORN (this is the message of my book, *Chosen for Greatness*):

***Ephesians 1:3-4, KJV Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who HATH blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:***

***4 According as He hath chosen us in Him (where) BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD (when), that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love (why):***

- b. BEFORE we were SAVED:

***Ephesians 2:11-13, KJV Wherefore remember, that ye being IN TIME PAST Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;***

***12 That AT THAT TIME ye were WITHOUT CHRIST, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and WITHOUT GOD in the world:***

***13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes WERE FAR OFF are made nigh by the blood of Christ.***

## 2. AND HAD COMPASSION...

**NOTE:** In this familiar story, the **GOOD SAMARITAN** of Luke 10 is the **GOOD SHEPHERD** of John 10—**JESUS!** It is also a **PANORAMA** of **REDEMPTION** from the **FALL** of Adam to the **COMING** of Christ!

*Luke 10:29-36, KJV* **But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?**

**30** *And Jesus answering said, A CERTAIN MAN WENT DOWN from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.*

**31** *And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.*

**32** *And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.*

**33** *But a certain SAMARITAN, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he SAW him, he had COMPASSION on him,*

**34** *And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.*

**35** *And on the morrow when he departed, he took out TWO PENCE, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, WHEN I COME AGAIN, I will repay thee.*

**NOTE:** A PENNY was a DAY'S WAGE (Matt. 20:2). The amount of "TWO PENCE" was enough for TWO DAYS (2 Pet. 3:8).

**36** *Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was NEIGHBOUR unto him that fell among the thieves?*

## 3. AND RAN...

*2 Chronicles 16:9, KJV* **For the EYES of the LORD RUN to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him...**

**4. AND FELL ON HIS NECK (a symbol for the WILL; compare Lk. 15:18 – “I WILL arise”)...**

*Job 16:11-12, KJV God hath delivered me to the ungodly, and turned me over into the hands of the wicked (like JOSEPH, DAVID, PAUL, and JESUS).*

*12 I was at ease, but He hath BROKEN ME asunder: He hath also TAKEN ME BY THE NECK, and SHAKEN ME to pieces (Heb. 12:26-29), and set me up for HIS MARK (Phil. 3:12-14).*

**5. AND KISSED HIM (this verb is in a CONTINUAL tense)!**

*Joel 2:25, KJV And I will RESTORE to you the YEARS that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm....*

**NOTE: Trace CHURCH HISTORY from MARTIN LUTHER to the PRESENT:**

- a. Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation (1517).
- b. The Anabaptists (seven years later).
- c. John Wesley and the Holiness Movements (1738).
- d. A. B. Simpson and the Healing Revivals (1875).
- e. Parham and Seymour and Azusa St. – Pentecost (1906).
- f. George Hawtin and the Latter Rain Revival (1948-1956).
- g. The Charismatic Renewal of the 1960s and 1970s.
- h. The Prophet Movement of the 1980s.
- i. The Apostolic Reformation of the 1990s.
- j. The Present Day and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Church.

***“Behold, what manner of LOVE...”***