

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17 and Luke 14:15-24 & 15:25-32

Singing: 238:1-3 – 435:9 – 235:1-3 – 179:1-4 – 84:1-2

Intro: The Gospel within the Gospel of grace (Luke 15)

A. High point of the parable is the *father's actions* (vs. 20-24)

B. What the father did to his returning son was *shattering* in various ways

1. He shattered heart of younger son (Rom. 9:16)

2. He shattered the thinking of the villagers (Heb. 12:2)

3. He shattered the village leaders (vs. 23)

4. He shattered his older son (vs. 28)

THE ELDER BROTHER'S REFUSAL TO SHOW GRACE

I. The act of his refusal II. The explanation of his refusal

III. The correction of his refusal

I. THE ELDER BROTHER'S ACT OF REFUSAL TO SHOW GRACE

A. He ignorance of all what took place (vs. 25)

1. He was in the field at work when the homecoming took place

2. He was surprised as he approached home

B. He is informed of what has happened (vs. 26-27)

1. Your brother has come!

2. Your father has reconciled!

C. He explodes with anger and refuses to show grace (vs. 28)

D. Upon this, the father for second time that day acted *in amazing grace* (vs. 28)

II. THE EXPLANATION OF HIS REFUSAL

A. His explanation of his refusal is loaded with rebellion (vs. 29-30)

1. He omits the respectful title (compare vs 21)
2. He accused his father
3. He mischaracterized his father
4. He despised his brother

B. What are the reasons of this rebellious refusal?

1. His heart that is blind for himself – blind for his owns sins
 - a. Jesus pictures two types of sinners in this parable
 - younger son:
 - older son:
2. Heart is also blind for glory of God’s loving and gracious nature

III. THE CORRECTION OF HIS REFUSAL

A. The father made a ‘gracious choice’ (1 Peter 4:8)

1. He reached out in even more *tender love* than to his younger son
2. We do not read what happened next
 - a. But history finishes the parable in Luke 23:1

Reflection:

A. For us the door of grace is still open (Luke 14:15-25)

B. Are we willing to show grace to the sinners?