

A SLOPPY HOUSEWIFE

Luke 15:8-10



a coin was lost in the household among the dirt
and darkness

COULD YOU BE LOST AS WELL?

A Sloppy Housewife

Luke 15:8–10

“⁸ Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?

⁹ And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.

¹⁰ Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.

Here was a household that was in deep trouble and doing a lot of moving of things out of the house. I'm sure the neighbors wondered what in the world was going on. Were they remodeling or were they doing their spring cleaning because all the noise and all the moving of the furniture, the dust was flying out the windows. She was not known as a good housecleaner. But maybe she had company coming and she was getting serious about cleaning the house before they got there. The reason for all the cleaning was; a very expensive coin had been lost. She wasn't a coin collector, but this piece of silver was very valuable to her. Those who study the times and customs tell us that women who married in that day did not get diamond rings as today. The eastern women received a headband with ten coins of silver evenly spaced. So, when they went out into the marketplace, she wore this headband signifying that she was a married woman. That she belonged to a man. It was very important and valuable to this woman and even more if one coin was missing. It would say that she had been unfaithful to her husband. So now we know why she is so interested in finding this coin. The problem was she had been careless but not unfaithful so she

was looking very carefully to find the lost coin. Jesus used this story to convey to His listeners the joy that heaven experiences when a sinner repents. The Pharisees criticized Jesus saying He received sinners and ate with them. Yes, He was a sinner's friend. I'm happy that He was. But here we are going to look at a sloppy housewife; because of her carelessness she lost a very valuable coin.

I. The Coin was Lost in the Dwelling. V 8

Either what woman having ten pieces of silver if she loses one piece doth not light a candle and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it. This lady began to clean her house and move furniture, because she knew it had to be in the house somewhere. She did not go down to the market place. She didn't lose it in the barroom or the dance hall. She lost it in her own dwelling. This was a valuable coin and she wanted it found. I want to say to you that this is true of many lost people. One does not have to be lost in the gutter to be lost. You need to see this, good people need to be saved, not just the drunkard or the drug addict or the murderer. Some of you have a spouse or a child or maybe a grandchild and you say Brother Billy they are good people. I will not object or argue with you. But are they saved? Do they have any evidence of their salvation? I was 17 years old before I got saved, and I was a good boy. I had never drunk a

beer in my life. I did not have a smoking habit or take any drugs. I never had sex with a girl until I got married. Yet I was lost. The Bible says in **Romans 3:12. “there is none that doeth good, no, not one.”** You see the truth is **Romans 3:23, “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”** Man's principal problem is he lost, and he needs to be found. Notice:

A. You Can be Lost in the Family.

This coin was lost in the dwelling in the house where she lived. This coin was not far away. It was right there in her home. Is it possible that we fail to see our own as God sees them? That husband may be a good provider and protector and you may say he has a good heart. But that's not true. I remember so many people who used to say that about my brother, Smoky. He would be in jail or in the hospital where he had been out sinning and they would say to me, he has a good heart. No, ladies and gentlemen truth is, his heart was black a sinner's heart. Often, we have family members, who are good in some ways, but they are lost, and they will go to hell with the worst of the worst if they are not saved. If you do not see this then it's possible they're going to be lost and never be saved. This woman understood that this coin was lost in her house. What about you? Can you see this? Do you have a child or grandchild, a father or mother, or a spouse that is not saved?

B. You Can be Lost in the Fellowship.

This coin was right there in the dwelling, but it was lost. It is possible for you to be lost even in the midst of church. You can be a member of the church and not be a Christian. You may talk the language of the redeemed, but your heart is empty. Jesus said in **Matthew 7:21**, “**Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven.**” You see one of the reasons Jesus gave this story was to show the Pharisees that God is not interested in reformation but repentance, not being whitewashed but washed white. Many today in church is lost. Like Judas Iscariot who was a follower of Jesus and had some good qualities was even elected to be the treasurer for the disciples. You can participate in church work and not be saved. It's possible that you're reading this and you are religious, but you know you have never been born again and your heart is empty and you're lost though you're in the fellowship of the people of God.

II. The Coin was Lost in the Dark. V 8

Notice the Bible says she lit a candle. Yes, the woman got some light to help her in the search for the lost piece of silver because the coin was lost in darkness. This is true of everyone who is outside of Christ. He may be brilliant in other fields, but he is in the dark when it comes to salvation and his need of Christ. Light is essential for life. But sinners do not like the light. We read in **John 3:19c**, “**and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.**” The evildoers always move in the

dark, that's why thieves work at night. Darkness is a friend of evil, light is the enemy of sin. Men hate the light because it reveals. The Pharisees hated Jesus because he was always turning on the light. Now this is how we once were. I remember living in darkness. I could not see my own sinfulness. I thought I was normal and fine until I began going to church and hearing the word of God, then I began to see. That's what the Bible says in **Psalms 119:130, "The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple."** The Holy Ghost takes the word of God, and He uses it to turn the lights on your soul to reveal your need of a savior.

A. The Value of the Silver.

This lady knew the value of this piece of silver. So, she lit a candle to reveal the coin in the darkness. Now as valuable as this coin was if it was lost it was worthless. This is also true of a lost soul. They have value but lost in darkness makes them worthless. This entire chapter is given to show this. Whether it was the lost sheep in verses 4-6. I mean a sheep was very valuable as long it was there; it was lost, but valuable. They went out to find it and stayed out until they did find it. Then there was the lost son that was loved by his father and he wanted him back home, etc. Or here a lost piece of silver that is so valuable to her, she went to great lengths to find it. Ladies and gentlemen, lost souls are important. So, important that Jesus left heaven and come to this earth. **Luke 19:10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."**

Have you ever noticed Jesus always likened lost souls to something valuable? A harvest of grains etc.

B. The Vigor of the Search. V8b

She lit a candle to search for the silver because it had value to her. Notice the Bible said **she diligently sought it**. The word means she carefully and seriously looked for it. It was not done haphazardly. No, she was very thorough. There would be nothing unturned no corner of the house would be neglected; she even looked very slowly and systematically in an organized way. This is the way our church should work in reaching lost souls. This is important work that we're doing. We are dealing with the souls of men. We need to be diligent in reaching them for Jesus.

III. The Coin was Lost in the Dirt. V 8-10

She swept the house. It was lost in the dwelling, it was lost in the dark, and it was lost in the dirt. This was a sloppy housekeeper. She needed to do some cleaning and now she was. She went to cleaning her house ever so carefully. She allowed the dirt to build up, the clothes to pile up, the dishes to pile up and it was a dirty house. I think the best of us has some problems here. Maybe before the woman had paid no attention to all the dirt and to how big of a mess her home had become. She didn't see that the house was that bad. Some of you need to see your dirty life; until you do you will be satisfied living that way.

A. The Success of the Task. V 9

And when she hath found it. One thing I see here is if you get serious in your search, you will end up successful. You must stay with it. I believe that we can reach people for Jesus Christ even in 2017. We can grow our church. We can grow our Sunday school if we have people willing to try.

This woman found the coin; the coin did not find her. There will be some work that we do in finding, our lost family and friends. The Bible says in **Psalms 126:6**, “**He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.**” We must be concerned and we must go. This is what we read in **Mark 16:15**, “**And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel.**” Are you going? Jesus left heaven to come to this earth looking for lost souls. If we are to be successful in finding the lost, we must be willing to go and search for them. Story of D L Moody

B. The Sharing was Thrilling. V 9-10

Notice the Bible says **Rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost.** Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repentant. That was rejoicing both here and in heaven. There was joy in the presence of the angels of God.

If you are reading this passage and you have never been saved you can make joy to be in heaven today by receiving Jesus as your personal savior.

A simple prayer offered to God will get you saved. Maybe like the one I prayed once. Dear Lord Jesus forgive me, and my sins, come into my heart and save me, and be the Lord of my life. Amen!

If you trusted Him today and prayed that prayer you are a child of God. You have the clear promise in **Romans 10:13, “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”**

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