

Sunday, July 29, 2018  
Union Baptist Church, Wilmington  
Dr. LaBarron McAdoo, Sr.  
Series:  
Sermon: The Problem with Grace

- **Luke 15:25-32** - (KJV) Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. 27 And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. 28 And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and entreated him. 29 And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: 30 But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. 31 And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. 32 It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.

Do you really have a problem with me?

Get over it, it's called grace. The parable was prompted by a bad mindset among those who represented the house of God

### **Last Week's Summary**

Young boy had his rebellious season. Some leave and do their dirt. Some stay and do their dirt. Just because they with don't mean they are with you. In his rebellion, he gets a revelation. He comes to the conclusion that he messed up and is worst than when he left. The father redeemed him. He redeemed him and restored him to his established position even though he was unworthy and had a reception for him.

### **The eldest son**

He hears and is arrested by the sound of music. Wherever he has come from, he is unaware of what has happened. He hears the sound of gladness and not sadness. The son claiming to be attached to the father doesn't know what the servant know. The youngest son had a problem with practice. The eldest son has a problem with perception. When ignorance is the issue, a misapplied perspective is the problem. What's the fuss about? The servant informs him that it is his brother. When he finds out his brother is home, here is where the problem starts. Description of the mindset of the older brother. Anger causes us to react sometimes. Our actions should be consistent with principles. Once the confusion is settled, the anger is gone. The catalyst for the anger was confusion. V. 28

1. Poisoned Perspective v. 29 - Some folks are not happy about your progress and are only happy when you are demoted. The problem that created it was that he was blinded by pride. The party didn't stop because the brother had a problem with it. He

- was all about me, myself, and I. He could not see the fuel for the party because he has his eyes just on himself. He is now saying, I am worthy of what you are giving to the youngest son. He is talking about what he did not get instead of being thankful for what he did get. His perception is stuck in the young son's past. V. 30.
2. A poison perspective will also poison your relation. He disconnected his affiliation with his brother and referred to him as his father's son.
  3. There is a partially imposed principle. Is he better than me? God's grace is tailored made for each recipient. He gives you what you need to get through your situation. We feel that another person must go through the same thing that we go through but that's not how grace operates.
  4. The absence from the father made the youngest son fonder for the father. Him being good to others don't cost anyone else anything. God is big enough for us all. V. 15:31
  5. Right to celebrate and wrong for you to intentionally miss the party. My son is your brother. God has been good to us. We need to get over our small stuff and be able to celebrate together. v32

### **Problem with Grace**

1. Grace makes the recipient look good. He makes us look better than what we deserve. Grace makes you look good. It must be God

We need to get over the elder brother issue and be ready to celebrate when the younger brother returns and is given God's grace. The absence from the father made the young son fonder of the father. The father being good to the younger son does not take away from the older son. God is big enough for us all. V.31. The father informed the elder so that they have a right to celebrate and that it was wrong for the elder son to intentionally miss the celebration. He reminded him that his son was his brother. God has been good to all of us. We need to get over the small stuff and be able to celebrate together. V. 32. We need to all get to the stage that we know that none of us deserve His grace.