

Luke 15:14

But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want.

We all know the story of the Prodigal son. If you don't you can read it in Luke Chapter 15. But I want to focus on this one part of the parable here in verse 14.

We know this guy got his inheritance early and went out and partied with it. And you know when you party, you can't be alone, but you seem to acquire new, so called, friends when you do party, especially when you have money, which this guy did. But soon the money was gone, and not only that, there was a famine in the land, no jobs and no free rides because everyone was in need. Also, no so called friends were around anymore either.

But here is something to think about, what if somebody actually helped this guy out by giving him a real job, and real food, and a place to sleep and shower and watch TV. If someone did, do you think he would had ever gone home? I really doubt it, because why would he? If you think about it, this prodigal was a very materialistic person, because stuff was more important to him than people or family. So he may had missed his family, but as long as he had stuff and a means to get more stuff he could had done without his family.

Ah, but God... yes those two words that mean so, so much, But God. Yes, God knew what this guy really needed, and that wasn't stuff. Sure God allowed him to have his so called fun and have a taste of getting his fleshly desires fulfilled, but there came a point that it was no longer about having those cool things, or looking cool to others. It just didn't matter any more, because here was this young Jewish man, feeding pigs, which are an abominations to Jews, and not only that, he was willing to eat what the pigs ate.

✠ **Luke 15:16** *And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.* (underlined for emphasis)

So, if he is taking care of pigs, you know he is not close to home, which gave him plenty of time to think about what he had done as he walked home, stomach growling because he was so hungry. But once again, if someone had helped him out, that would not had been the case, no growling stomach and no desire to go home.

Sometimes we go through things or situations that we create, and it seems that no one is there to help at all. Could it be that this is the only way the Lord can get your attention, because if others did help out, you wouldn't had come back to the Lord or gotten saved.

That's why it's important to pray about who you give to and help out. Sometimes what we think is best for others by doing for them, just prolongs what God is wanting to do in their life.

Sometimes you may even feel bad or cruel for not helping, but was God wrong or cruel for not having anyone help out this Prodigal so that he would come home? And not only come home to a good meal and comfy bed, but more important coming home and realizing how much he truly was loved by his dad.

† **Luke 15:20** *And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.*

I pray that someone reading this today will realize that God is speaking to your heart to come back home, even though it seems like everyone else has rejected you, God never will reject you. The question is, are you willing to come back to Him?

† **Isaiah 44:22** *I have blotted out, like a thick cloud, your transgressions, And like a cloud, your sins. Return to Me, for I have redeemed you.*