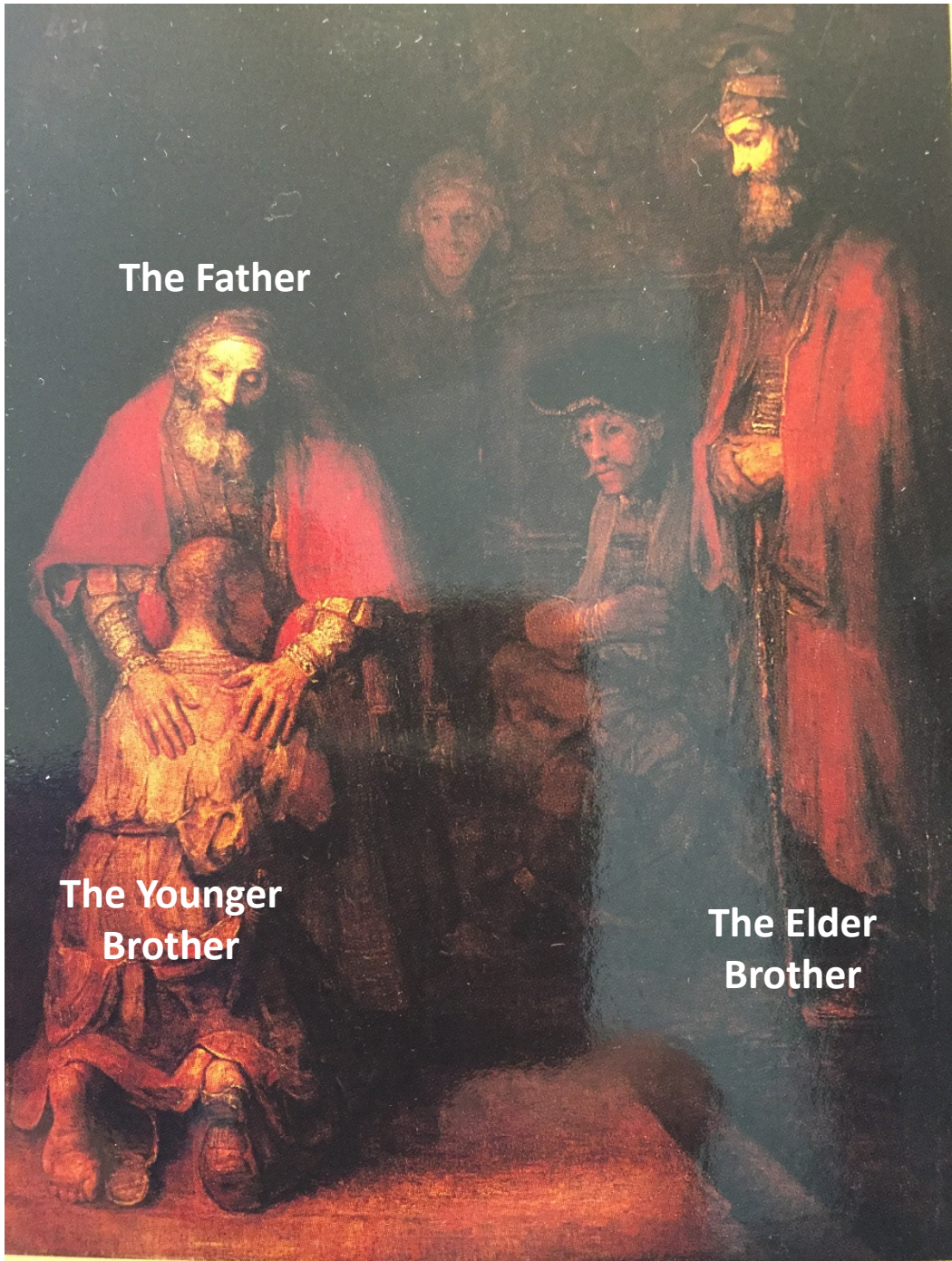




Parables

“More Than A Story”



The Father

The Younger
Brother

The Elder
Brother

Here is what Jesus is saying in this parable:

There is nothing you can do to lose or to earn your heavenly Father's love but you do need to receive it and remain in it to live with joy.



Act 1 – The lost younger brother shows us that there is nothing you can do to lose the Father's love but you do need to receive it.



Ali Stroker from the Cast of "Oklahoma"



Ali Stroker from the Cast of “Oklahoma”



“Oh we know that we belong to the land and the land we belong to is grand.”

Luke 15:13

Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.

Luke 15:18-19

18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'

Luke 15:18-19 (Paraphrase)

“Father, if you will apprentice me to one of your hired men, so I can learn a craft, I know I can’t come back and be your son but this way at least I can begin to pay you back.”

Luke 15:20-21

20 So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. 21 “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

Luke 15:22-24

22 “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

Grace – “Doing good to those that deserve the opposite.”



Act 2- The lost older brother teaches us there is nothing we can do to earn the Father's love but you do need to remain in it.



Luke 15:28-30

28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

Luke 15:31-32

31 “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

Romans 8:15-16

“15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’”

16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.”

Luke 15:28-30

***28 “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him.
29 But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’***

Religious People Vs. Gospel People:

Religious people obey God to get things

Gospel people obey God to get God



Do you have JOY in your life?

Religion = Resentment/Critical Spirit

Gospel = Relationship/Joy filled Spirit



When you know that there is nothing you can do to lose or to earn your heavenly Father's love and you receive it and remain in it you will be filled with joy.



