

# LOST

by

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*“The son of man has come to seek and save that which was lost.” Luke 19:10*

Bible Study Reading:	Luke 15:8	Lost coin
	Luke 15:11	Lost son
	Genesis 25:34	Lost birthright
	Genesis 1:27	Lost image
	Genesis 2:17	Lost life – dying
	2 Kings 6:5	Lost ax / found
	Luke 15:4	Lost sheep

**LOST** on an uncharted island! *Lost*, the only survivor of an airplane crash with no hope of being found. *Lost*, in the high rocky mountains when a weekend hike is interrupted by an unexpected snowstorm, a trained outdoorsman loses his direction and discovers he is lost. *Lost*, in a big city of millions of people, a total stranger with no map of the city.

One early morning as I rested in my recliner, my home was shaken by an explosion that caused me to leap to my feet, run outside and look into the sky for the cause. At that time I saw nothing, but later discovered the US space shuttle, Columbia, had exploded in the Texas sky over our house. All occupants of the shuttle were lost and only fragments were found scattered across the countryside.

Lost in time and space is a hopeless and desperate feeling, but to be lost in eternity without a second chance for discovery is total darkness. All mankind was lost, not in time and space, but lost in eternity. From the first man Adam, man has lost the image of his Creator (Genesis 1:27-2:17). Jesus came to seek, save, and restore the lost (Luke 19:10). Jesus taught us in His coming about the value of people to His Father (John 3:16). Jesus spent time to illustrate God’s eternal love searching for us like a woman searching for a lost coin (Luke 15:8), or a father searching for a lost son (Luke 15:11), and never giving up until they are found and restored.

Some people lose their ability to produce, like the worker in 2 Kings 6:5 who while cutting wood lost his borrowed axe in the river and could no longer work or pay his debts. He asked for help from God and was given a solution. It was a miracle! The Word was to throw a stick into the water and when he obeyed the Word of God the axe head began to swim and was restored to him.

Jesus also teaches us about a lost sheep who had been separated from the flock of a 100 sheepfold and the night had fallen. You and I are that lost sheep, but Jesus the

Good Shepherd was willing to leave the 99 safe sheep and go out into the darkness to search for the lost sheep and restore him to safety (Luke 15:4).

The Word of God teaches us that by disobedience man lost everything: his life, his health, his dominion over creation, his peace, and most importantly the image of God. Without Christ man is dead in trespass and sin (Ephesians 2:1). Jesus Christ came and carried a stick, the old rugged cross, into our eternity to restore us by giving man the opportunity to receive the gift of God, which is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 6:23).

You are not lost, according to God's promises. You are found by Jesus Christ, our Lord. Do you believe this? If you believe the promise of God in Jesus you are saved (Romans 10:9-10). Will you pray this simple prayer with me now? Come on along right now and pray, "Jesus, I believe You came to find me and forgive me, to save me and restore me to the image of God. I confess my sin and accept Your gift of life. Thank You Jesus for eternal life. Amen."