

Theme: Making personal **the** gospel.

Proposition: The gospel message is a **personal** thing.

Scripture: Luke 15:1-10

Text: Luke 15:7

References: Ab. Bible Comm., p. 1048.



Scripture: Luke 15:1-10

Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him. And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.

And he spake this parable unto them saying,

What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it?

And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.

I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.

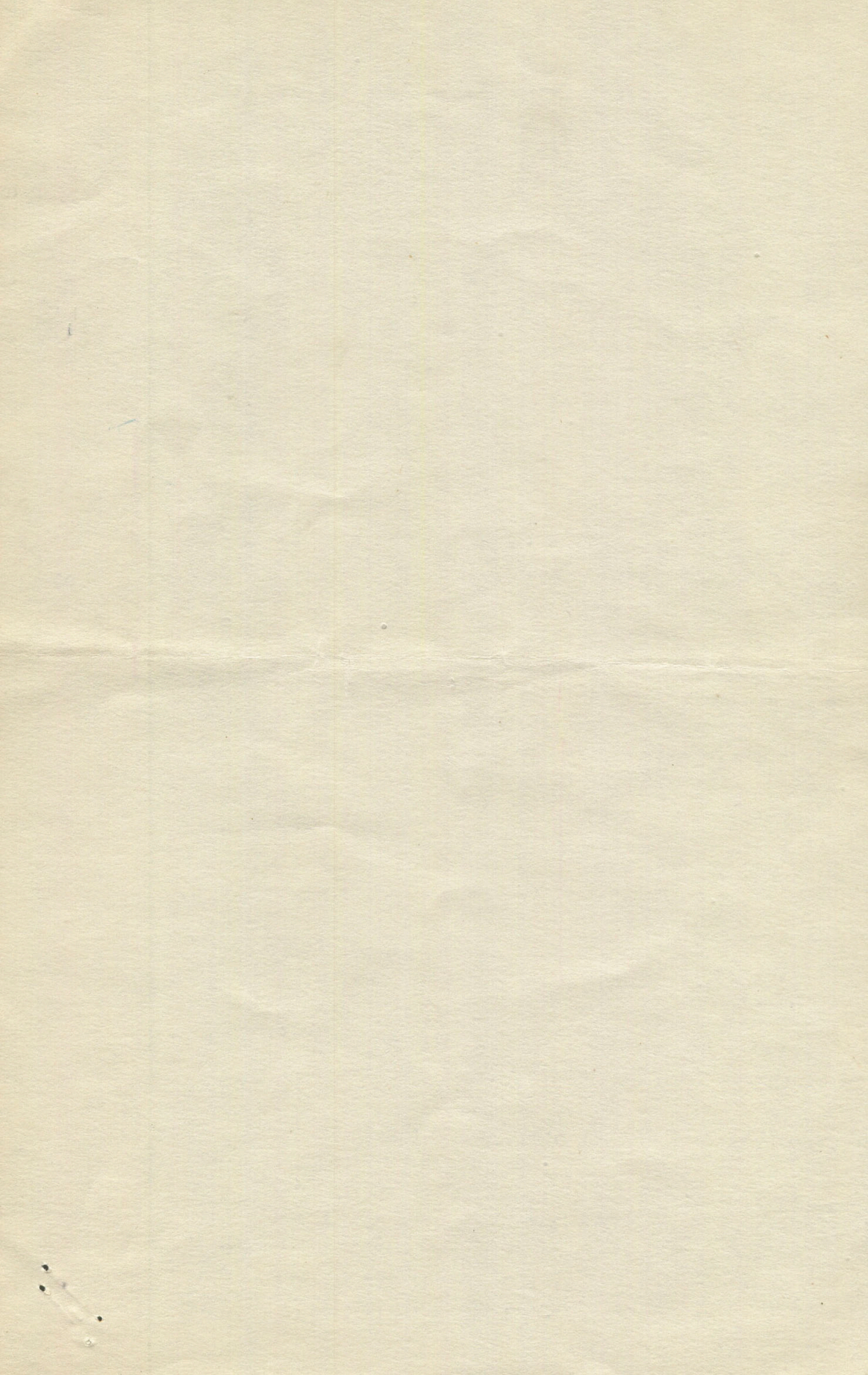
Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?

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.

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

Text: Luke 15:7

I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.



## Introduction:

1. We find our scripture divided into two divisions, each demonstrated by a parable.

a. At first glance it seems that both parables illustrate the same idea, but there is a difference.

2. The two divisions of thought combine to illustrate one chief point, however, which isn't too apparent.

3. The whole message of the scripture is tied in with the total gospel message.

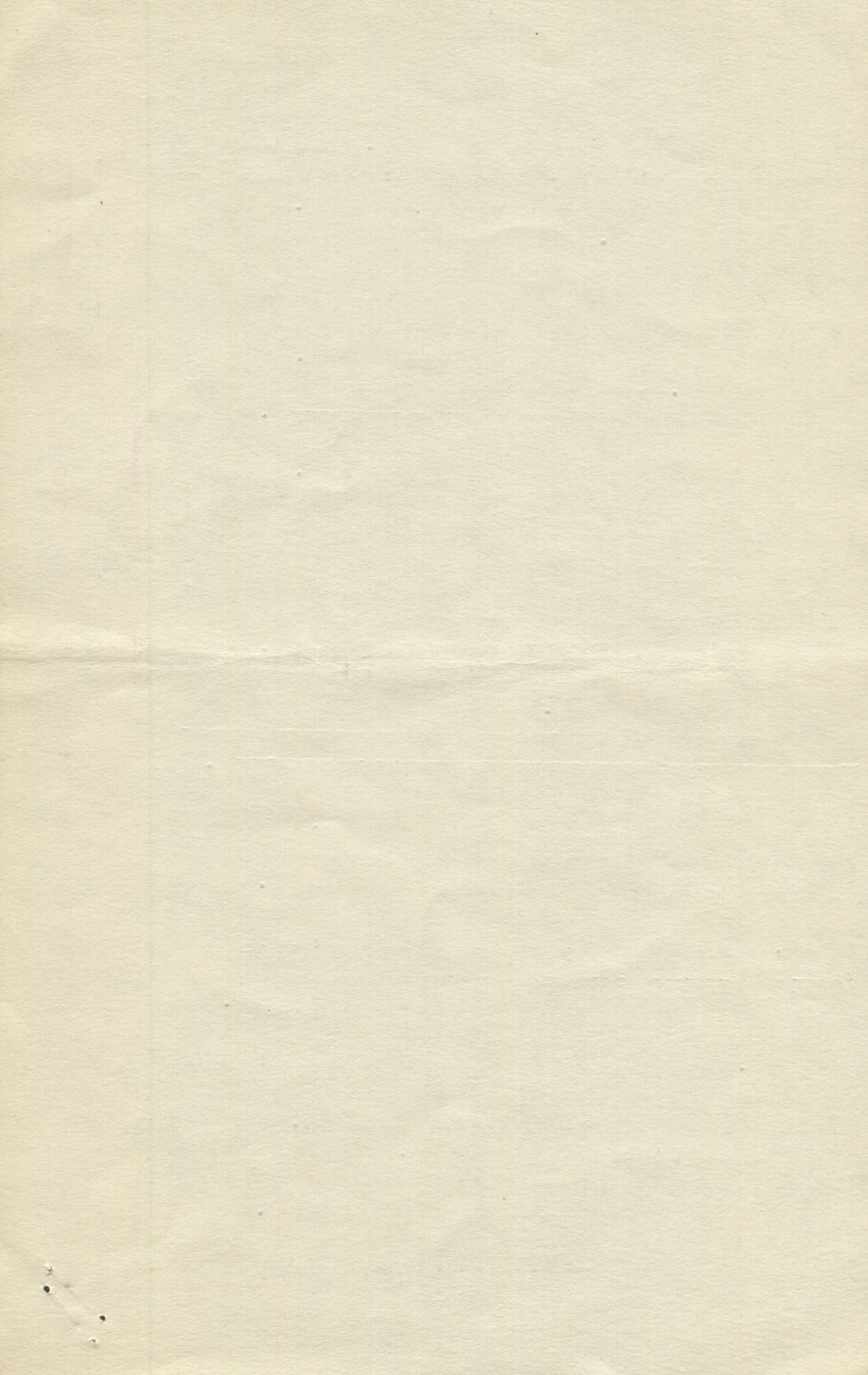
I. The parable of the lost sheep shows penitence of those outside the fold brings joy in heaven.

1. It points out, then, that, as it was the finding of the sheep outside the fold that caused the joy in the parable, so the coming into the fold of the kingdom of God of one outside it causes joy to God; or to the company of heaven.

2. This has a personal message to him who is outside the fold.

a. As well as being called to a life of repentance, renunciation, sacrifice, and self-discipline, he is being given a chance to make his heavenly father happy.

b. He is also given a chance at great joy, at the safer life within the fold.



II. The parable of the lost sheep also places a responsibility on the ones who feel themselves already within the fold of God.

1. As the shepherd in the story may be the agent of the owner of the sheep, so the one already in the kingdom is obligated to be the agent of God.

a. This means that he is obligated to look for those outside the fold.

b. Since they are everywhere, it involves a duty to talk and discuss seriously with them the duties and privileges of Christianity.

2. It places an obligation upon the one within the fold to be joyful upon the bringing of the message to one who knows it not.

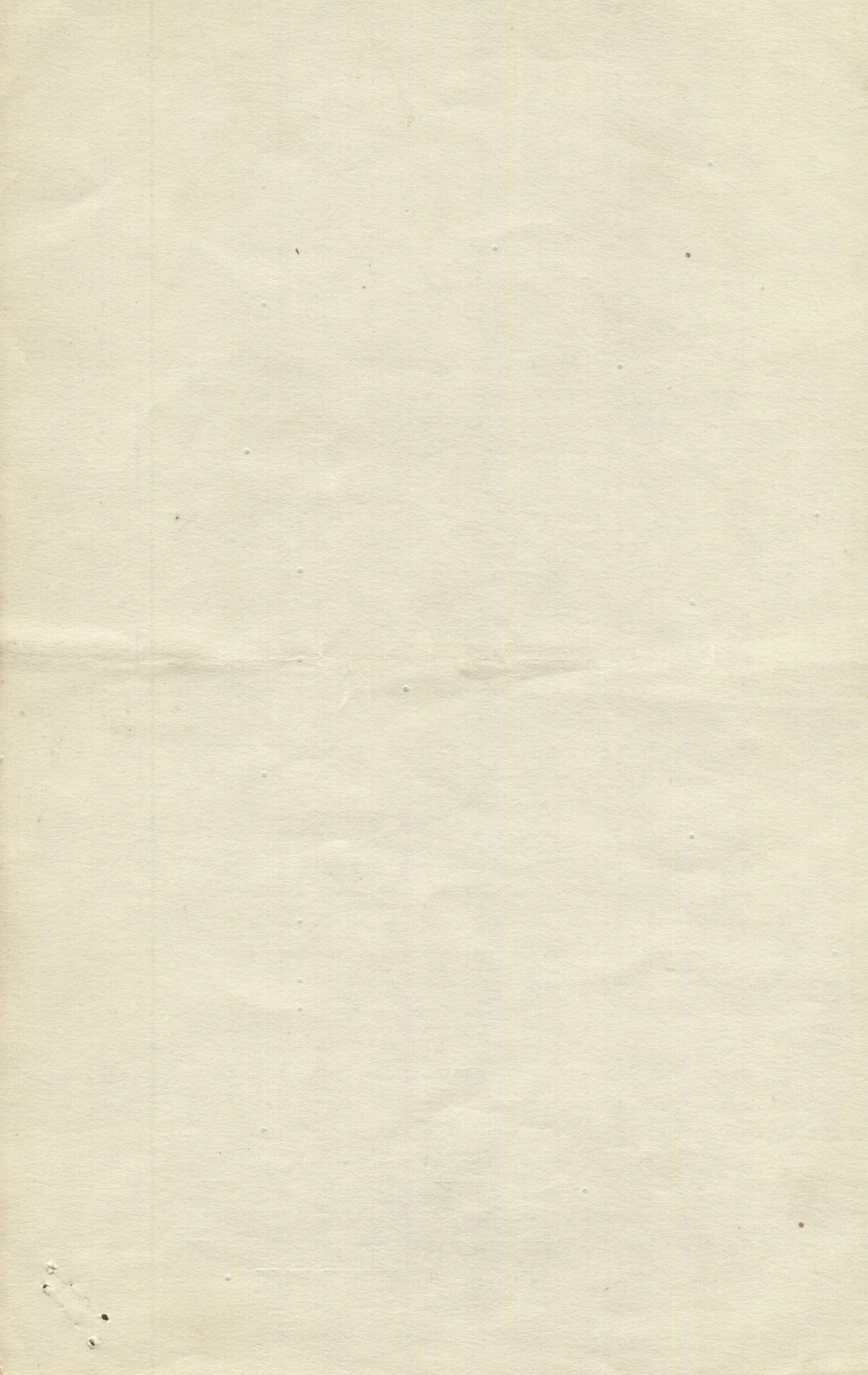
a. This means that he himself must demonstrate in his life that his religion is a joyful thing.

b. It means that he knows and shares the joy of God in the work of reaching ones who know God not.

III. The matching parable, the parable of the lost coin, points out that penitence of those who are lost within the fold also brings joy.

1. The coin was within the house, when it was lost; yet caused similar effort to find it.

2. When it was found, there was occasion for great rejoicing.





2. Even so, those within the fold of the church, or the Christian brotherhood, may become lost, if their repentance, renunciation, sacrifice or self-discipline laxes.

4. It is their personal duty to so tend to their religious state that they will not become as the lost coin.

5. It is the personal duty of each one within the fold to help others within it watch their state so they will not become lost.

6. It is the personal duty of those within the fold to celebrate with joy the return to the fellowship of those who may have become lost.

a. Make it, that is, so that the joy of the fellowship of the Christian religion exceeds any joy known, even while that fellowship is here on earth.

Conclusion:

1. The gospel message, the message of Christ is a personal message.

2. It calls all men to do the will of God that they might be of the family of Christ.

3. It has a message of joy for those outside the fold, and carries a message that each of such persons is important in the sight of God.

4. It is personal in its message to Christians already in the family of Christ, for it places on each an individual responsibility to care for his brother-man's religious state.

Sermons  
New Testament  
Luke 15:1-10

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