

Luke 15.1-10 mgvh notes

1

NA28 Ἦσαν δὲ αὐτῷ ἐγγίζοντες πάντες οἱ τελῶναι καὶ οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ ἀκούειν αὐτοῦ.

NASB Now all the tax collectors and the sinners were coming near Him to listen to Him.

KJV Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him.

ESV Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.

NRS Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.

NET Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming to hear him.

NIV Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus.

NJB The tax collectors and sinners, however, were all crowding round to listen to him,

CEB All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus to listen to him.

NLT Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach.

MSG By this time a lot of men and women of doubtful reputation were hanging around Jesus, listening intently.

MGVH Now all the tax collectors and sinners were crowding around Jesus to listen to him.

- Ἦσαν ... ἐγγίζοντες: Periphrastic participle construction
- Note Luke's combination of οἱ τελῶναι καὶ οἱ ἁμαρτωλοὶ in 5.30; 7.34; 18.13.

NA28 καὶ διεγόγγυζον οἱ τε Φαρισαῖοι καὶ οἱ γραμματεῖς λέγοντες ὅτι οὗτος ἁμαρτωλοὺς προσδέχεται καὶ συνεσθίει αὐτοῖς.

NASB Both the Pharisees and the scribes began to grumble, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

KJV And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.

ESV And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

NRS And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

NET But the Pharisees and the experts in the law were complaining, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

NIV But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

NJB and the Pharisees and scribes complained saying, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

CEB The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

NLT This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people-- even eating with them!

MSG The Pharisees and religion scholars were not pleased, not at all pleased. They growled, "He takes in sinners and eats meals with them, treating them like old friends."

MGVH And the Pharisees along with the experts in the Law were grumbling, saying, "This guy, he welcomes sinners and eats with them!"

- Note τε ... καὶ construction > both ... and... (With the initial καὶ, I think "And the Pharisees along with the experts..." works better.)
- Note other instances of γογγύζω root in Luke 5.30 and 19.27 which also deal with Pharisees and food. Where in the OT does someone grumble about food? (Search for γογγύζω in LXX.)
- The word order emphasizes their disgust with Jesus and the sinners. Orally you can almost hear how apoplectic they are that they cannot even get a sentence out: "This guy... sinners... He welcomes them and eats with them!"
- Is it assumed that the tax collectors mentioned in v1 are among the "sinners" mentioned here? If so, what "sin" exactly do tax collectors commit?

3

NA28 Εἶπεν δὲ πρὸς αὐτοὺς τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην λέγων·

NASB So He told them this parable, saying,

KJV And he spake this parable unto them, saying,

ESV So he told them this parable:

NRS So he told them this parable:

NET So Jesus told them this parable:

NIV Then Jesus told them this parable:

NJB So he told them this parable:

CEB Jesus told them this parable:

NLT So Jesus told them this story:

MSG Their grumbling triggered this story.

MGVH So *Jesus* told them this parable, saying,

NA28 τίς ἄνθρωπος ἐξ ὑμῶν ἔχων ἑκατὸν πρόβατα καὶ ἀπολέσας ἐξ αὐτῶν ἓν οὐ καταλείπει τὰ ἐνεήκοντα ἑννέα ἐν τῇ ἐρήμῳ
καὶ πορεύεται ἐπὶ τὸ ἀπολωλὸς ἕως εὕρη αὐτό;

NASB "What man among you, if he has a hundred sheep and has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture
and go after the one which is lost until he finds it?"

KJV 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?

ESV "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country,
and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?"

NRS "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness
and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?"

NET "Which one of you, if he has a hundred sheep and loses one of them, would not leave the ninety-nine in the open pasture
and go look for the one that is lost until he finds it?"

NIV "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country
and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?"

NJB "Which one of you with a hundred sheep, if he lost one, would fail to leave the ninety-nine in the desert
and go after the missing one till he found it?"

CEB "Suppose someone among you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them. Wouldn't he leave the other ninety-nine in the pasture
and search for the lost one until he finds it?"

NLT "If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness
and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it?"

MSG "Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness
and go after the lost one until you found it?"

MGVH What person among you, if he has one hundred sheep and loses from among them even one... He leaves the ninety-nine in the open country
and goes after the one that was lost until he finds it, doesn't he?

- The thought is clear, but the sentence is complicated. The scene is set with the person having one hundred sheep and losing even one of them, and then continues with a question using οὐ which assumes a positive answer. I.e., in this telling, it is clear that it was reasonable to leave ninety-nine sheep in order to get one lost one.
- Note the repeated use of the ἀπολύμι lexeme in Luke 15.4, 6, 8, 9, 17, 24, 32.
- Compare Luke 15.4 to the parallel in Matthew 18.12. What difference do you note?
- καταλείπει: Note the use of the present tense here and throughout the story.
- Note use of εὕρισκω forms in Luke 15.4-6, 8-9, 24, 32.
- What is the best way of translating ἐρήμῳ? Note the various renderings. In general, it means an uninhabited region but not necessarily a desert. "Pasture" seems too civilized, but is "wilderness" (the usual way the word gets rendered) better?

5

NA28 και εὐρών ἐπιτίθησιν ἐπὶ τοὺς ὄμους αὐτοῦ χαίρων

NASB "When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

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

ESV And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

NRS When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.

NET Then when he has found it, he places it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

NIV And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders

NJB And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders

CEB And when he finds it, he is thrilled and places it on his shoulders.

NLT And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders.

MSG When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing,

MGVH And when he finds it, he puts it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

- I think εὐρών is best taken as a temporal circumstantial participle here in light of the end of v4. Compare to the parallel in Matthew 18.13.
- Note the repeated use of the χαρ- root in Luke 15.5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 32

6

- NA28 και ἔλθων εἰς τὸν οἶκον συγκαλεῖ τοὺς φίλους καὶ τοὺς γείτονας λέγων αὐτοῖς· συγχαίρητέ μοι, ὅτι εὔρον τὸ πρόβατόν μου τὸ ἀπολωλός.
- NASB "And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!'
- KJV 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.
- ESV And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'
- NRS And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'
- NET Returning home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, telling them, 'Rejoice with me, because I have found my sheep that was lost.'
- NIV and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.'
- NJB and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, I have found my sheep that was lost."
- CEB When he arrives home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost sheep.'
- NLT When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.'
- MSG and when you got home call in your friends and neighbors, saying, "Celebrate with me! I've found my lost sheep!"
- MGVH And when he gets home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, because I found my lost sheep!'

- NA28 λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι οὕτως χαρὰ ἐν τῷ οὐρανῷ ἔσται ἐπὶ ἐνὶ ἀμαρτωλῷ μετανοοῦντι ἢ ἐπὶ ἐνενήκοντα ἐννέα δικαίους οἵτινες οὐ χρειαν ἔχουσιν μετανοίας.
- NASB "I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
- KJV 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.
- ESV Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
- NRS Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
- NET I tell you, in the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to repent.
- NIV I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.
- NJB In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner repenting than over ninety-nine upright people who have no need of repentance.
- CEB In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes both heart and life than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to change their hearts and lives.
- NLT In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!
- MSG Count on it-- there's more joy in heaven over one sinner's rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.
- MGVH Let me tell you, that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who is repenting than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.
- More precisely: "I say to you, 'In the same way...'" There is the similar saying in 15.10.
 - μετανοοῦντι is a present participle (~ "is repenting") that can be taken either as an adjective (sinner who is repenting...) or circumstantial (sinner when they are repenting...)

- NA28 Ἡ τίς γυνὴ δραχμὰς ἔχουσα δέκα ἐὰν ἀπολέσῃ δραχμὴν μίαν, οὐχὶ ἄπτει λύχνον καὶ σαροῖ τὴν οἰκίαν καὶ ζητεῖ ἐπιμελῶς ἕως οὗ εὔρη;
- NASB "Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?"
- KJV 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?
- ESV "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?"
- NRS "Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?"
- NET "Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search thoroughly until she finds it?"
- NIV "Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it?"
- NJB 'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it?"
- CEB "Or what woman, if she owns ten silver coins and loses one of them, won't light a lamp and sweep the house, searching her home carefully until she finds it?"
- NLT "Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Won't she light a lamp and sweep the entire house and search carefully until she finds it?"
- MSG "Or imagine a woman who has ten coins and loses one. Won't she light a lamp and scour the house, looking in every nook and cranny until she finds it?"
- MGVH Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins, if she loses one coin... She surely lights a lamp and sweeps the house and keeps on searching carefully until she finds it, doesn't she?
- The initial phrasing is similar to 15.4 with an introduction leading to a question assuming a positive answer.
 - A δραχμὰς is estimated to be worth about a subsistence level day's wage.
 - οὐχὶ is an intensified form > surely...

9

NA28 καὶ εὐροῦσα συγκαλεῖ τὰς φίλας καὶ γείτονας λέγουσα· συγχαίρητέ μοι, ὅτι εὔρον τὴν δραχμὴν ἣν ἀπόλεσα.

NASB "When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost!'

KJV 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.

ESV And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'

NRS When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'

NET Then when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.'

NIV And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.'

NJB And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, I have found the drachma I lost."

CEB When she finds it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost coin.'

NLT And when she finds it, she will call in her friends and neighbors and say, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost coin.'

MSG And when she finds it you can be sure she'll call her friends and neighbors: "Celebrate with me! I found my lost coin!"

MGVH And when she finds it, she calls together her girlfriends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, because I found the coin that was lost.'

- The sentence is very similar to verse 6, but her friends are female in this instance.

10

NA28 οὕτως, λέγω ὑμῖν, γίνεται χαρὰ ἐνώπιον τῶν ἀγγέλων τοῦ θεοῦ ἐπὶ ἐνὶ ἁμαρτωλῷ μετανοοῦντι.

NASB "In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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

ESV Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

NRS Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

NET In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who repents."

NIV In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

NJB In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.'

CEB In the same way, I tell you, joy breaks out in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who changes both heart and life."

NLT In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents."

MSG Count on it-- that's the kind of party God's angels throw every time one lost soul turns to God."

MGVH In the same way, let me tell you, joy happens in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who is repenting."

- This conclusion is similar to 15.7 but note the differences.

Luke 15.1-10 mgvh

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were crowding around Jesus to listen to him.

² And the Pharisees along with the experts in the Torah Law were grumbling, saying,
“This guy, he welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So [Jesus] told them this parable, saying,

⁴ “What person among you, if he has one hundred sheep and loses from among them even one...

He leaves the ninety-nine in the open country
and goes after the one that was lost until he finds it, doesn't he?

⁵ And when he finds it, he puts it on his shoulders, rejoicing.

⁶ And when he gets home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them,
‘Rejoice with me, because I found my lost sheep!’

⁷ Let me tell you, in the same way,
there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who is repenting
than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.

⁸ Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins, if she loses one coin...

She surely lights a lamp and sweeps the house
and keeps on searching carefully until she finds it, doesn't she?

⁹ And when she finds it, she calls together her girlfriends and neighbors, saying,
‘Rejoice with me, because I found the coin that was lost.’

¹⁰ In the same way, let me tell you,
joy happens in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who is repenting.”