

## ROMANS—PART 70 (Prodigal People)

### Romans 11:1; Luke 15:11-32

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1. God's grace is greater and more persistent than an obstinate and disobedient heart.
2. *Romans 11:1* Did the father reject his son, or is the father patiently waiting?
3. *15:11* The point of the story is to contrast two different attitudes resulting in two courses of action.
4. *15:12* It was as though he was saying to his father, "I wish you were dead!"
5. *15:12* We are always in a dangerous place whenever we value things more than people.
6. *15:14* The "distant country" does not have to be a distant geographical place because it first exists in our hearts.
7. *15:14* The realities of life hit him hard...He sought pleasure, he found pain; he wished freedom, he got bondage. He was dirty, distraught, and defeated.
8. *15:17* In misery he realized his own transgressions brought about the outcome.
9. *15:18* True repentance involves the mind as well as the action: "I will arise...I will go...I will say..."
10. *15:17-19* The first step was recognizing his condition and being willing to say, "I have been wrong, I am a sinner." This is the moment the reality of grace was first identified... it was already there, but he had not acted on it yet.
11. *15:20* The father's love precedes any confession of repentance.
12. *15:21* He experienced in the deepest part of his soul the feeling of separation and guilt. He knew he did not want to live separated.

