

The Lost In The Family

Parable Of The Lost Sheep

Luke 15:1-7





The 5 R's

1. **Ramblings:** Why did Jesus teach this parable?
2. **Representation:** Who are the lost Sheep?
3. **Reason:** Why did the sheep get lost?
4. **Rejoicing:** Why did Heaven rejoice?
5. **Responsibility:** As a Church as Community of believers

15 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law _____, **“This man welcomes (προσδέχομαι prosdechomai;**

, sinners and eats with them.”

3 Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴ **“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 (ἀπόλλυμι, apollumi) that means to _____ fully, literally or figuratively: - destroy, die, lose, perish. sheep until (Gk -heōs, _____ uncertain empathy) he finds it? ⁵ And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶ and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing (cheerfulness) in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.**

1. Ramblings



1. There was rebellion against Jesus' way of teaching sinners (Luke 15:1-2).
 1. **Tax collectors:** made themselves rich at the expense of their Jewish countrymen and often guilty of extortion and blackmail.
 2. **Sinners:** guilty of immorality along with defiling Jewish tradition.
2. Jesus relates three parables to tell Pharisees how much God rejoices when a lost soul is found, even the soul of a sinner.

*“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” **Luke 19:10***

“Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently. But watch yourselves, or you also may be tempted.”

Galatians 6:1

2. Representation

The Bible Only Likens God's People as Sheep

For He is our God, And we are the people of his pasture, The sheep in his care. Today if you listen to his voice.
Psalm 95:7

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. *Isaiah 53:6*

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.
John 10:27

The Good Shepherd left the 99 to search the 1 lost. *Luke 1:5-17*



3. Reason

Why did the sheep go missing?

1. The lost sheep were the Jewish people of Israel. They knew the Law and yet had gone astray.

2. Who are the lost sheep today?

1. Other believers.
2. Pastors/elders/deacons.
3. They sinned.
4. They were sinned against.

3. Unlike the Pharisees, Jesus did not come into this world to rub it in but to rub it out (**Luke 18:9-14**)

(Greek: :)

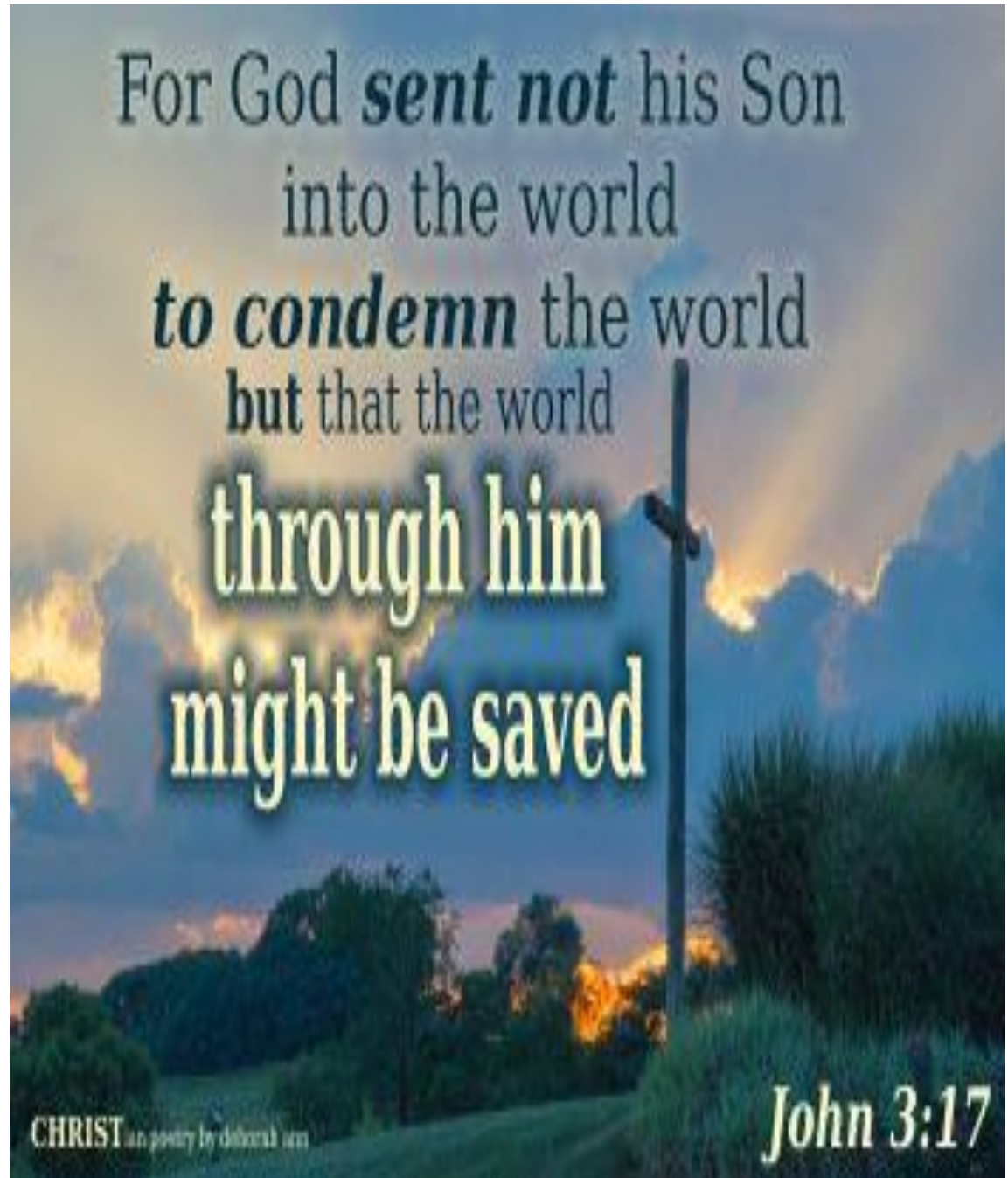


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Rev J John



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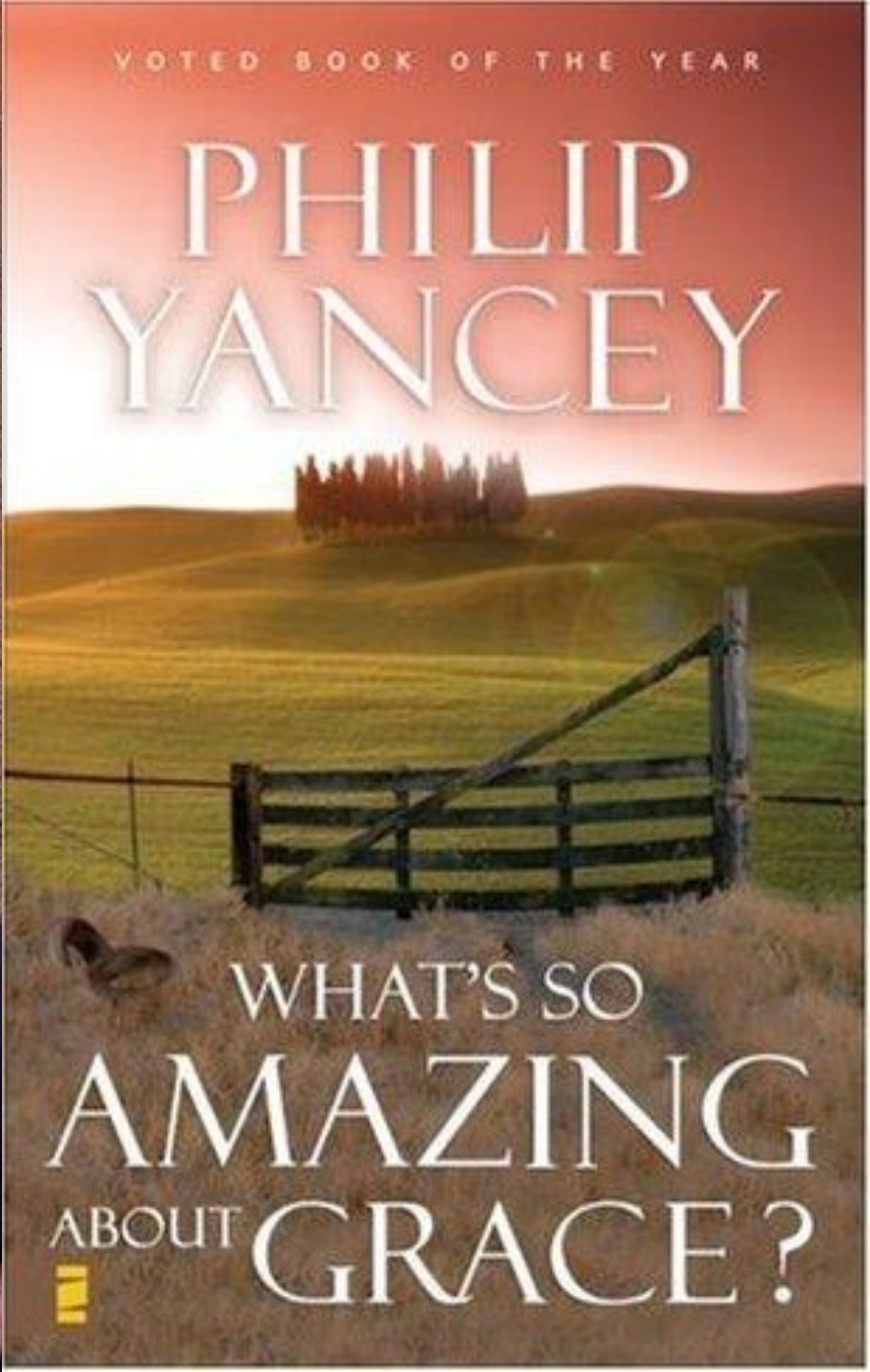
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4. Rejoicing



1. **John McArthur:** There is special joy expressed for the sheep that is found not because it is more valued than the others but because that one is now safe from danger, hardship, and death
2. **All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.** ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, (John 6:37-39).
3. We must have the heart of Jesus not just looking out for each other or the ninety that are safe but for the ones that are lost or more specifically who have wandered away from the Lord and shipwrecked their faith.
4. Zacchaeus was a lost sheep, he was the chief tax collector a man who was short in stature and despised by the community.
5. The parable of the Lord Sheep in reality is a revelation of God's heart for those who have struggled in their faith, fallen into sin, or who have found themselves out of fellowship with His people.



CHURCH! WHY?



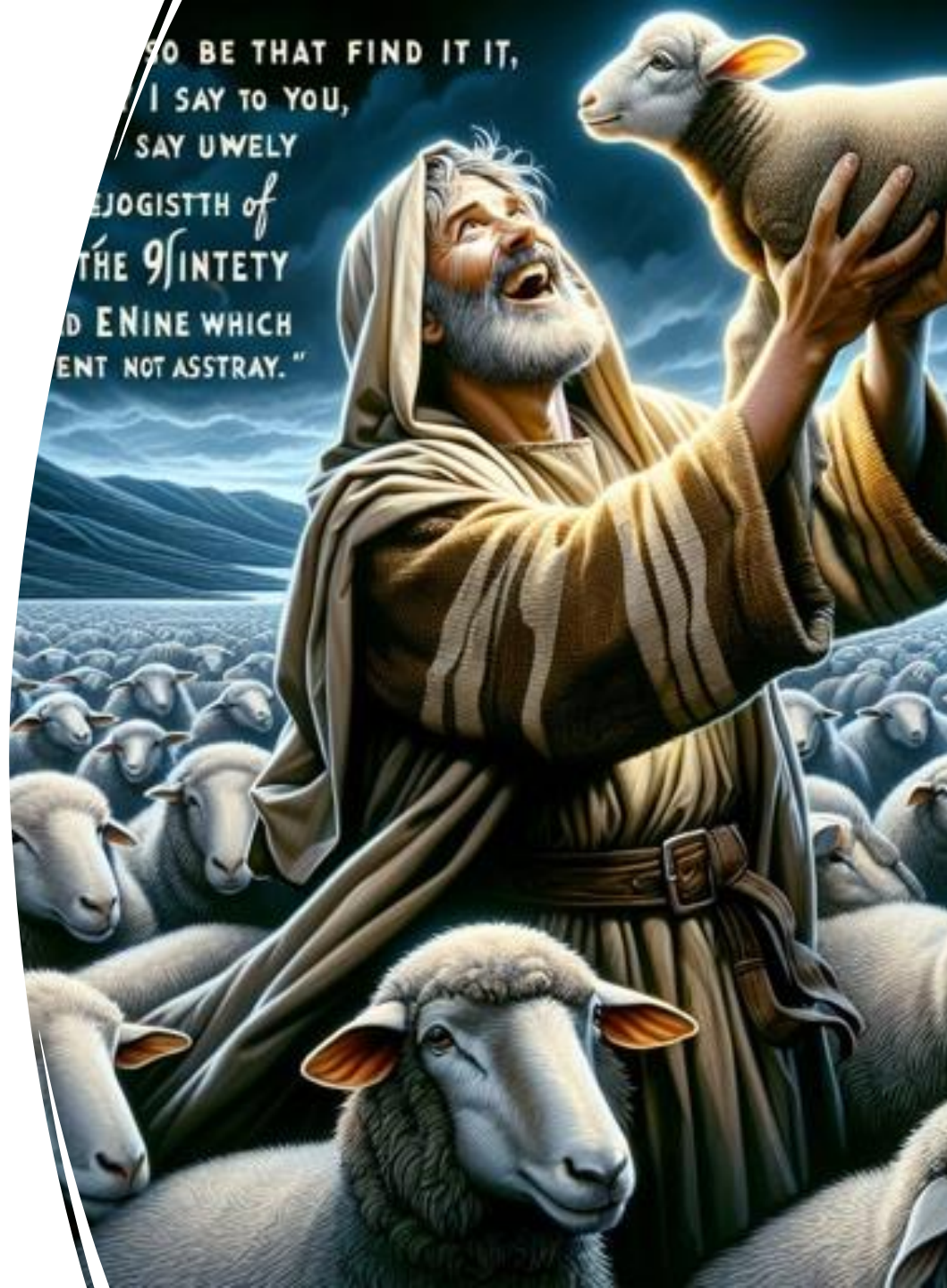
4. Rejoicing

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5. We have a God who pursues us though we wandered away from Him. Jesus is our Shepherd.

“For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.”
Ezekiel 34:11-16

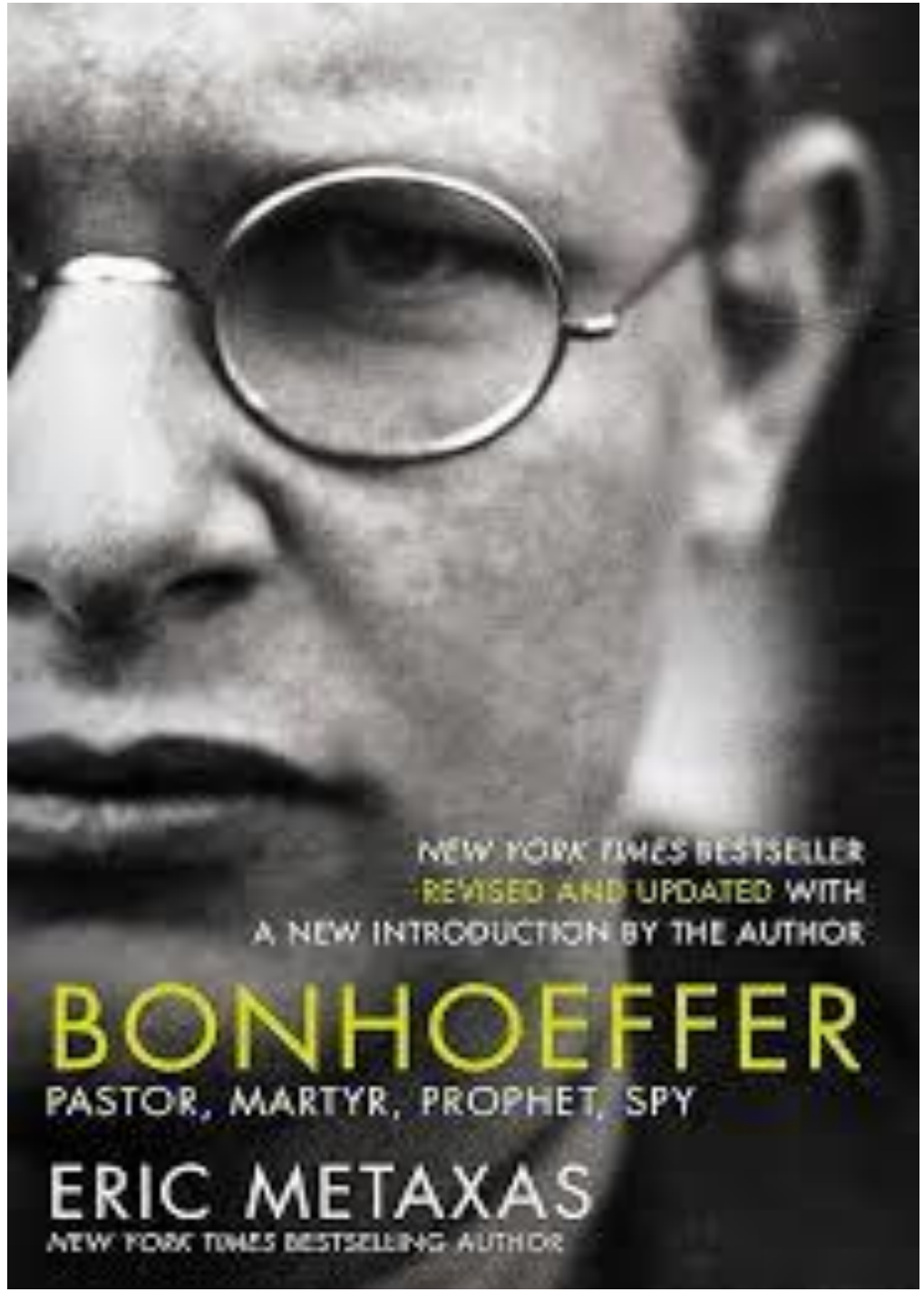
6. When we are not concerned about the lost, then we are like the pharisees and teachers of the law or like the eldest son the parable who is selfish, self-centred, self-absorbed and self-righteous



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Those of us who are saved, we are saved by grace, but what we don't realize is that that true grace comes to us by a costly sacrifice, Jesus was willing to go to the cross and endure such pain and absorb a cost in order to save us. We then must live sacrificially in order to serve others. That's the gospel, not salvation by Law or Cheap Grace but Costly Grace. Costly Grace changes us from the inside out.

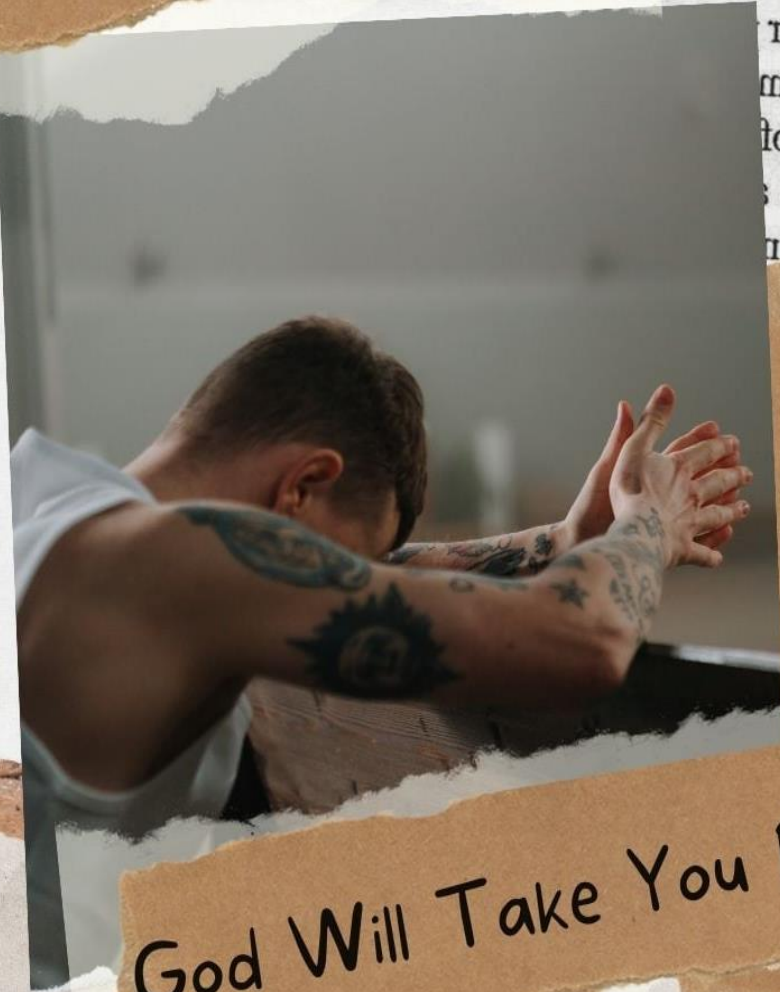
Timothy J. Keller's Preface in the Book Bonhoeffer, Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy, by Eric Metaxas



¹⁵ Our Responsibility



BACKSLIDING



God Will Take You Back

Friends Jesus told us these three parables, to correct the Pharisees misconception about God. These Parables show that God loves **ALL** people and wants everyone, especially sinners and backsliding believers, runaways' believers to return to Him. God does not play favorites but He rejoices when anyone who turns to Him.