Safe & Sound

Tony Mauck · Luke 15:27

INTRODUCTION

- The servant said to the elder brother, your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf. Because he has received him back safe and sound.
- I don't want us to overlook the statement of the servant as to the reason why there is now a celebration unfolding in the Father's house.
- That's an expression that we use all the time without ever thinking about it, really. Safe and sound.

1 Safe: A Reprieve From Very Real Threats

- When I think of something that is safe and sound, I think of a reprieve from the very real threats that might exist to our well being, our health, our lives, and in a spiritual connection, our souls.
- The reckless son has come back to a sphere of safety where there is insulation from the very real threats that exist out there.
- Safety as a possession is a wonderful quality. But spiritually, it is essential that we experience it.

2 Sound: Wholeness and Wellness

Colossians 4:14; Luke 5:31; Luke 7:10

- Sound has to do with the idea of wholeness or wellness.
- It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick.
- And so Jesus came to provide wellness for the sick.
- She was home. Just like the prodigal.

3 Out of Darkness and Into God's Marvelous Light

Colossians 1:13; 1 Peter 1:13–16

- The call of the gospel is one where we are brought out of darkness and into God's marvelous light.
- Even more than that, it is about understanding the crippling nature of the darkness.
- Gird your minds for action. Keep sober in spirit.
- Be holy yourselves also in all your behavior. Because it is written, you shall be holy, for I am holy.
- Don't minimize or neglect the soundness, the wellness and the wholeness to which Jesus calls us.

4 The Gall of Bitterness and the Bondage of Iniquity

Acts 8:19–24; Matthew 27:34; Hebrews 12:15

- Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.
- Repent of this wickedness of yours and pray the Lord, that if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.
- For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and the bondage of iniquity.
- It is a picture of a malignancy so utterly foreign to a right view of things.
- The problem of all sin, all sin, no matter what it is that it is the gall of bitterness and the bondage of iniquity.

5 Our Refuge Among People Who Care

Ephesians 4:15; Colossians 3:12–15

- There is now, therefore, no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus.
- There is a part of our wellness that involves our refuge, not only with God, but our refuge among people who care about us, who desire our wellness.
- One of the great functions of the Lord's people, his church, is to provide a nurturing sanctuary for the recovering sinner.
- We're here to bind up the wounded and the brokenhearted.
- Put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving each other.

THE CHALLENGE

Is there someone in this audience who is in a place unsafe and unsound? Are you ready for the day of reckoning that will come?

MY NOTES