

Undeserved Criticism Answered

LUKE 15:1-32

Intro. **A.** It has been said in sarcasm that, "No good deed goes unpunished".

1. The reason this seems funny is because it states a great deal of truth.

2. Many times an effort to "be nice" has brought angry denunciation.

3. This is certainly true of Jesus.

4. He did answer His critics!

B. Jesus did an extraordinary thing.

vs. 1 **1.** He allowed religious and social outcasts to approach Him. **2.** They wanted to hear Him.

"publicans" = tax agents for an occupying power.

"sinners" = "those who broke the traditions of the elders", Not Law of Moses, Pharisees.

C. The pharisees criticized Jesus.

vs. 2 **1.** They were careful to murmur.

"MURMUR" = διαγογγυσῶ = "to keep on whispering"

2. The accusation they made.

"Receiveth" = προσδέομαι = "to accept at face value, entertain"

3. "eateth" as a host."

I. Jesus Explained His Actions By Speaking 3 Parables

A. The parable of the ninety-and nine.

vs. 4 **1.** The good Shepherd goes for the lost sheep.

vs. 5a **2.** He rejoices to have found it.

B. The point or truth of the parable.

vs. 6 **1.** He calls his friends and neighbor.

vs. 7 **2.** There is joy in heaven.

"Rejoice" = χαίρω = "to be glad", "to be pleased"