

# The prodigal daughter

*Disclaimer: this is an automatically generated machine transcription - there may be small errors or mistranscriptions. Please refer to the original audio if you are in any doubt.*

Date: 01 January 2000

Preacher: Rev David Paterson

[ 0 : 00 ] Turn to God's word this evening in the Gospel according to John chapter 8. John's Gospel chapter 8, reading verse 10.

When Jesus had lifted up himself and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? Have no man condemned thee?

She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee. Go and sin no more. Neither do I condemn thee. Go and sin no more. This evening I want to look with you at the story of what we might call the prodigal daughter.

Most of us know the story of the prodigal son. In a strange way, we have a sentimental feeling about the prodigal son.

[ 1 : 39 ] We who should not concur in his guilt, strangely enough, have a sentimental feeling about the whole story.

For somehow or another, most people who are Christians relate the story in some measure or another to themselves.

In fact, we might say tonight that in a certain ecclesiastical sense, the prodigal son in 2,000 years has somehow become respectable.

It's strange that we don't really have the same sentimental feeling for the prodigal daughter.

We're thankful that Jesus acted as he did. We're thankful that she was forgiven for our sins.

[ 2 : 51 ] But somehow or another, her story has never gripped us as the story of the prodigal son.

Now it's true that whatever we see in the prodigal son, we see something of in the prodigal daughter.

And when Jesus said to her, neither do I condemn you, go and sin no more, we find this evening in her a truth that should bring us comfort.

A truth that should bring us hope. You see, Christians very often are tremendously mixed up.

Somehow or another, the devil seeks constantly to introduce to our minds dark thoughts of God.

[ 4 : 02 ] We have personal accusations which we all have to face. Like this girl here, Jesus said, where are your accusers?

Though most of us know what it is to be accused. We are accused, accused sorely by a conscience which registers guilt.

Particularly on the evening before the Lord's Supper. We're accused by an accusing conscience.

And we feel the pain and the fear and the solemnity of accusation.

Sometimes we're accused by the laws of God. By the very laws that Christ has kept for us. But we are still accused by them.

[ 5 : 18 ] And we forget that Jesus has said to us, Neither do I condemn you. Sometimes we're accused by memories in the mind of our failings and our sins in the past.

So when it comes to remembering the Lord's death, We are faced with a tremendous variety of accusers.

Saying to the people of God, You're guilty of this. You're guilty of that. You're guilty of this. And the more we listen, The more real our experience becomes.

Because usually, In many cases anyway, The accusations are true. We turn this evening To this woman And we want to look At her story And try and find in it That which will That which will Stir us up Help us to see the Savior Help us to realize something more Of the one whose death We will remember.

In other words, This evening We want to see Christ Dealing With someone Like ourselves When we read In Luke's Gospel The story of the lost sheep The story of the lost coin The story of the lost son There was one thing In common In the three stories And that was The joy of God When someone

Was found The joy of God When the sheep was found The joy of God When the coin was found  
The joy of the father When the son was found And may I say this To any Who would like  
[ 7 : 45 ] To remember The Lord's death And I say it sincerely You may have Your accusers But if  
you're trusting In Christ And come to remember His death You Will bring joy To the father You will  
have the joy Bells Ringing At the throne Of heaven Where are your Accusers Yes You will feel them  
You're not worthy You've done this Your prayer life Is not as good As you would like it to be There's  
so many things That make you so Unlike the people Of God But You do Trust him You do want To  
remember His death I tell you Jesus is saying To you Where is your

Refusers They're all gone And the same Joy That you see In the three Parables Will take place In  
the unseen Of God Let's remember That the dark Pictures That the evil One paints In our minds  
About God Are not true God is a good God God is a forgiving God God is a receiving God God is a  
Pardoning God And if Jesus Is anything We see God God In human form Let's always Remember  
this So that we begin To be positive Just imagine You're sitting In your seat Tonight Wondering  
Even as a believer Ought I be there Tomorrow Your accusers  
Around you Well If you Will come To the end Of this service And hear Jesus Say to you Go And sin  
No more And in your Heart There is this Desire To be done With sin And to put it Away You can  
know From the scriptures That in heaven The celestial Being Are in an Attitude Of joy Because  
whenever The eternal God Sees his Creatures Turn against Sin He is Joyous Will we get That clear  
So then Bearing that In mind Let's look At this woman The prodigal Girl And let's Look at her Story It  
might help Us First of all We notice Quite simply That her guilt Is undeniable  
She was caught In the act And when you Look at the Scriptures Clearly You find Three things At  
this point One The woman Did not Dispute it She didn't Dispute and Say these Are not The facts  
She didn't Deny it She didn't Say well I'm not Really guilty And she Did not Defend it Three things  
She didn't Dispute it She didn't Deny it And she Didn't defend Her actions Adultery Was sin And it  
Deserved The punishment Of God Here is a  
Woman Who doesn't Deny her Sin Dispute it Or defend it She Concur With God's Judgment On it  
My friends Is this Your attitude To yourself Tonight You don't Dispute your Sin You don't Deny it  
You don't Defend it You don't Make excuses For it You concur With God That it's Punishable And  
you Deserve Nothing But the Worst It's Good And if You refuse Keep on Accusing You Let's go  
Further Down the Chapter Our guilt Is undeniable The sentence That our guilt Deserves Is  
irrefutable Here in this

[ 12 : 51 ] Case The Pharisee Says The law Of the Wilderness Demands Stoning But In the case Of  
Israel By the Permission Of God This law Of the Wilderness Had been Permissively Revoked By  
God Take for Example David The man Of good Heart God God Did not Demand That the Law Of  
the Wilderness In this Case Be carried Out It had Been Permissively Revoked Not We may Say  
That sin Deserved Any lesser Penalty Not that Sin did Not bring

Its own Judgment Upon David And it Will bring Its own Judgment Upon Ourselves Not that Sin We  
may See here Will bring Its own Consequences At the Great White Throne But in This case As far  
As the Pharisees Were concerned The sentence Was irrefutable Moses Law Said By stoning And  
you Know my Friends Even when The sins Of the People of God Are pardoned Even when They  
are Brought to The blood Of Christ For cleansing Even when They are Forsaken By those Who've  
Fallen Into sin Even when All that Takes Place According According to The law  
Of God The accusers They still Come and Say You're not Right And Jesus Says Where is Your  
accusers Rabbi Duncan Said once He said If my Conscience Will not Accept The verdict Of the  
Blood of Christ Upon it Then I Must take My conscience To the Blood of Christ To be Cleansed We  
dare Not We will Not We cannot Be more Spiritual Than the Scripture And when We go To God  
With our Sin To the Blood of The Savior We're Trusting In We then Have a Right To hear Jesus Say  
to Us Where is Your Refusers You're Now in A right Relationship  
With God You're Now Pardoned Go and Sin no More And we Have a Right To hear The joy In  
Heaven Over Our Own Repentance You see Her guilt Was undeniable The sentence Was  
irrefutable And so the Pharisees Gathered round Like those Ugly Ecclesiastical Hawks That they  
were People's Head Was filled With knowledge Filled With scripture Filled With tradition And whose  
Hearts Were blacker Than Devils In the Pit They were Hovering Around They tempted Him We read  
To accuse Him Do you know What they were Trying to do They were Trying to make Jesus Act  
Contrary To the Scripture They were Trying to

Make Jesus In one Sense Do exactly What that Woman Had done And then The accusers Were going To come In And they Were going To tell Him What they Thought Of him It's amazing How the devil Tries this Tactic And how He tried It so Often With Jesus The devil Tried To make Him Act Contrary To Scripture At the Temptation If you Be the Son of God Throw Yourself Down The angels Will come For you Worship Me Act According To Scripture Yes The Pharisees Tried It here The thief On the Cross Tried It He Says Come Down Of the Cross And save Yourself And ask The disciples Tried It And Jesus Had to say To them Get thee Behind me Satan And here The Pharisees Were trying It They Tempted

[ 17 : 53 ] To Accusing None Succeeded Because here We see The wonder Of the Wisdom And the Goodness And the Power Of Jesus That we Trust in The silence Then was Impenetrable He answered Them not But kept Them waiting There was a Dramatic Scene What would The teacher Do You see They knew What they Thought Jesus Weaknesses Were Do you Ever Think of The weakness Of some Poor people Some people Always know Another person's Weakness Don't they And boy They don't Forget to Let them Know Well the Pharisees Thought they Knew Jesus Weakness And Jesus Had a Weakness Oh he had A weakness For sinners He had a Weakness For helping People According to

The Pharisees You see He was Renowned For helping Outcasts He was Renowned For showing Mercy He was Renowned For his Answers What would He do Now The Pharisees Thought That they Had got him They thought He was in A dilemma We've got him Now They said To themselves Where we Want him Jesus Was quiet And Jesus Rose up And the Challenge Was unmistakable Listen to it He that is Without sin You cast The first Stone He met Them on Their own Ground He met Them on A moral Ground He faced Them with Their own Guilt You that Without Stone Without Guilt Cast the First Stone He beat Them at Their own Game Let the Sentence Then be Carried Out He says But Let it Be carried Out by A person Without Sin With a Strange Hush Nobody Moved The Spirit Of God Was There And Their Conviction Was Universal We read They went Out From the Eldest To the Least Convicted By Their Own Sin Convicted But Not Converted He That Was Without Sin We Can Only Imagine The Authority In His Words We Can Only Guess The Impact Of His Words But We Can See The Effect Of His Words And Let me Say This My Friend To Any Who Are Unconverted Here Tonight What You See There When The Pharisees Move Away With Their Fallen Heads And Their Guilty Spirits Speechless Is But An Early Picture Of What Will Happen At The Great White Throne Of God When The Whole Of Humanity Will Be Faced With Their Guilt And Their Sin You See In This Picture We See A Fearful Acceptation Of Guilt We See A Fearful Admission Of Guilt And We See A Fearful Accountability Of Guilt The Pharisees Were Guilty Too As Well As The Prodigal Girl And Jesus Watched Them Go And Then We Find A Pardon That Was Personal Listen To What Jesus Says Jesus And The Woman Were Standing Alone And Jesus Says To The Girl Who Was Caught In Adultery In The Very Ark Where Are Your Accusers Does No Man Condem You Neither Do I Condem You He Who Had The Most Right To Condemn He Who Had The Most Evidence

[ 22 : 56 ] To Condemn He Who Had The Most Authority To Condemn He Says I Am Not Going To Condemn You Go And Sin No More We See In This Verse A Pardon That Was Personal You See He Alone Could Pardon On The Ground Of A Coming Calvary When He Would Go To The Cross And Bear This Luffy Sin He Knew His Calvary Was Ahead He Knew She Was Guilty But He Could Say I Don't Condemn You He Alone Could Pardon On The Ground Of A Coming Atonement And He Alone Could Pardon In The Office Of A Seeking Savior I'm Not Going To Condemn You He Says Go

And Sin No More The Pattern He Left Her Was An Intentional Pattern He Said Go Pardon Pardon First First You Accusers They Have Nothing With Which To Condem You I Have Pardoned You They Have Nothing To Condem You With But Then He Said Go And Sin No More Pardon First Godly Living Second And It's Always Like That Go Pardon They Said To Her Go Differently Go Changed Sin No More You See Sin Was Not Being Condoned The Girl Was To Depart From It There We

Find The Three Requirements Both For Salvation And For Coming To The Lord's Table One Those Who Are Willing To Admit Their Gloop Two Those Who Are Willing To Accept Pardon From Jesus And Three Those Who Are Willing To Alter Their Lives Is That The Way With You And Is That The Way With Me Tonight Willing To Admit Our Guilt As Christians Willing To Admit Not To Deny It Not To Dispute It But To Admit

It Well If We Are Willing To Admit Our Guilt Our Accusers Have Nothing More To Say To Us And We Don't Need To Listen To Them Because Jesus Says To Those Willing To Admit Their Guilt Neither Do I Condemn You Someone Says But You Don't Know Me You Don't Know My Guilt And I'm A Christian I Know This My Friend That The Blood Of Jesus Christ God Son Cleanses From All Sins And If We're Willing To Admit Our Guilt He Is Willing To Pardon Us Not Only Willing To Admit Our Guilt But Willing To Accept

Pardon How Difficult It Is Sometimes To Accept Pardon Some Of Us Who Are Now Among The People Of God For A Long Time Were Unwilling To Accept Pardon We Thought It Was Too Simple We Thought There Was A Catch In It We Thought That We Couldn't Really Be Genuine It Surely Wasn't As Easy As This Many Of Us Were Like That Before We Came To Christ As Sinners In Our Need But You Know What I Find My Friends Many Of Us After We Become Christians Are Afraid To Come To To Come To Christ For Pardon For Our Sins Against Knowledge Our Sins In The Church While

[ 27 : 57 ] Part Of It We Are Afraid To Come To Christ For Pardon Because Our Accusers Will Say Your Guilt Is Too Deep Your Sin Is Too Fearful Your Condition Is Too Corrupt Your Life Is Too Evil You Cannot Come To Christ Again For Pardon Like That The Accuser The Devil Of An Angel Of Light He Will Come And You Would Think That He Was Sitting On The Throne Of Heaven Instead Of Cast Out Of Eden Wait And Be Chained And Taken To Hell He Is So Apparently Pure In His Accusation To The Church Of God You Stay Fearless You Can Interpret

His Words You Stay In That Condition Can You Imagine God Wanting You To Stay In The Condition Of Fear And Torment And Iniquity No My Friends Never As A Child Of God Does God Want That No Matter Who Our Accusers Are Or What They Say Or How True They Are Or How Subtle They Are Where Are Your Accusers Says Jesus If We As Sinners Are Willing To Admit Our Guilt If We As Saints Are Willing To Admit Our Guilt That Step One In Spite Of The Accusers If We Can Only By The Grace Of God Get Our Eyes Upon Christ And What He Is Saying And Not What The Accusing Voices

Are Saying Then We Will Hear Him Say To Us What He Said To This Girl He Asks Us If We Are Willing To Admit Our Guilt Those Then Who Are Willing To Accept Pardon Oh I'm Sure That Day That Lappy She Was Willing To Accept Our Pardon You See Instead Of Stoning She Was Free Instead Of Burden She Was Pardon She Said I Don't Forgive You I Forgive You And He Was Using His Own Personal Authority Jesus Says I'll Forgive You And To Those Who Are Willing To Receive His Pardon You

Will Receive It And You Will Come To The Lord's Table And The Very Act Of Your Receiving Pardon As A Sinner Or Your Act Of Receiving Pardon As A Saint In Spite Of Those Accusing Voices Will Call Whoever Is In Charge Of The Music In Heaven To Set Heaven Going With Joy Imagine Imagine Imagine It You Who Because Of A Heart That's Full Of Fear A Face That Is So Shamed Spiritually That You're Frightened Even To Let Anyone See What You're Thinking Imagine You Just You Tonight Going And Receiving Pardon And Creating That

Kind Of Joy In Heaven It's Hard To Credit But Jesus Said It And Then Finally Those Who Are Willing To Alter Their Lives Admit Their Guilt Yes Receive The Pardon Yes Alter Your Life Yes Because It's A Strange Thing In The Ways Of Grace When You Come To The Place Before God When You Are In Spiritual Need As A Sinner Or As A Saint And You Admit Your Guilt And You Stretch Out Your Hands For Pardon And You Get It At The Moment Of Receiving Your Pardon Something

[ 33 : 00 ] Is Given To You To Forsake Your Sin And So This Evening The Story Of The Prodigal Girl Brings Us All Tremendous Measures Of Hope As We Look At Jesus Dealing With Her We Can See Tonight Jesus As He Is Going To Deal With Us As We Admit Our Guilt Before A Communion As We Receive Our Pardon From His Crucified Hands As We Receive It From Him Seeing Him Smile With A Smile Of Reconciliation And As We Say To Him Lord With Your Help I Will Try To Sin No More It's

As Simple As That And If That's Your State Of Mind Tonight If You've Never Come To The Lord's Table Think Of Yourself Coming As A Poor Needy Sinner Just Like That And Think Of The Amazing Fact At The Same Time It Will Make Your Soul Joy That By Coming You're So Honoring Christ Rebel Though You Are Weak Though You Are Needy Though You Are You're So Honoring Jesus That They're Getting Ready Almost For Joy In Heaven Over You Someone Says Surely Not But My Bible Says There Is Joy In Heaven Over One Sinner That Repenteth That's The Principle And

Whenever Sinners Repent The Principle Is True For You Child  
Of God This Is The Word For You As John Calvin Says The Lord's Table Is For Spiritual Sick The  
Lord's Table Is A Medicine May God Help Us To Hear His Word And Respond To It With  
Thankfulness And Joy Shall we Pray Oh Bless Thy Word To Us This Evening Our God We Pray  
The We Thank Thee That Thou Art A Wonderful And A Gracious God So Different To Us We May  
Not Always Be Like Those Ecclesiastical Hawks O God We May Not Always Be Like  
Those Who Accused Oh Make Us Like Thy Son Take Every Other Spirit From Us And Make Us  
Like Jesus Bless Thy People Now Give Them That Vision And Grace To Remember Thy Death In  
Thankfulness For Jesus Sake Amen Families Person Muslims To Words■■ Career Journeyagar  
Children Res■ Boy To midnight mel■vam cortisol Que pu ■■■■ habenPEC Lim At leven■