



## **Sportin A Tude**

Luke 15:25-32

Have you ever heard the expression, Sportin a Tude. It means we carry an attitude. How many times in life do we, if we are honest, get an attitude about something which rubs us the wrong way. We often fail to see things as they are and view them from our own perspective, and thus the TUDE. We get mad at this, and angry at that, offended by this, or aggravated by that. Often we don't even realize what we look or sound like to others around us. We justify our attitude and actions because after all, we are right and they are wrong. Let's look at a character in the story of the Prodigal Son. The prodigal son's brother in this case is the one who is "sportin a tude". Let's go there and see if we can see a part of ourselves in the older brother. Let's look at our own lives today and see if we can't see an attitude lurking in our own lives. It's time to stop "Sportin a Tude" and enjoy life as it was meant to be.

Read Luke 15:25-32

### **I. Introduction**

#### **A. The Prodigal's return - The glad scene**

1. The father running to meet his boy
2. The joy over the returning one

#### **B. The Man who missed out on the blessing**

1. The elder brother returns from the field.
2. He refuses to enter into the joy and therefore misses out!
3. What caused the elder brother to miss the joy of this

occasion?

### **II. Sporting The Tude**

#### **A. Negative, Critical, Grumbling Spirit (v28)**

1. Today one of the main evidences of our need is our negativism, our complaining, and our griping

#### **2. How different we are from the early saints**

a. Paul could praise in prison -

we pout in prosperity

b. Paul glorified in his infirmities

we growl in affluence

c. If you growl all day don't be

Surprised if your dog tired at night

3. Never have Christians had so much and appreciated it so little.

4. What some Christians grumble about:

- a. Their family members
- b. Their jobs, the government
- c. Their Father's weather
- d. Specialist about finding faults
- e. Some grumble about their churches and their pastors

5. Revived hearts find enough in Jesus to keep them praising!

B. The Tude of an offended spirit (vs. 29-30)

- 1. The problem: "When this thy son was come"
  - a. Not my brother, not my wayward, lost one
  - b. No personal commitment or attachment
- 2. An offended spirit often hinders the work of God
- 3. Evidence of an offended spirit:
  - a. Made him grumble when it was time to rejoice and be glad (vs. 28-29)
  - b. Made him exaggerate his own righteousness
  - c. Made him feel sorry for himself
  - d. Made him forget all that he had as the son of his father
- 4. No wonder things are not as they ought to be:  
"you are sportin a tude" it distorts everything!

C. The Sin of a Compassionless Heart (v.30)

- 1. Why was the prodigal's brother unmoved by his return?
- 2. Because he had been unmoved by his being away
- 3. He had worked hard on the family farm but unlike his father. He didn't care about his missing brother.
- 4. The Father cares. Do You?

### III. Conclusion

- A. We often neglect to talk about the elder brother because it speaks to us of our own sins
- B. Do you see yourself as one whose attitude is keeping you from the joy of life
- C. It's time we confess our Attitudes to God and ask like David to once again experience the joy of our

Salvation again.

D. Ask God to keep us alert to attitudes we get on a daily basis and to help us to overcome them.