

says, father, I have sinned, I am no longer fit to be called your son. You will notice that he left off there, that's as far as he got, I expect that his father broke in, and said, bring the best robe and put a ring on his finger, and shoes on his feet, he is alive, he is back from the far country.

Sub 15/11-32

Intro.

Letter - J. Roy Taylor

We consider one of the greatest stories of all times, perhaps we can say that this is the greatest Jesus has told. People say, well are you going to talk about that story again. And yet it seems to be fresh and theirs always a new truth. As we imagine this story, we can see many things, it concerns a prodigal son, this is a picture of a headstrong, rebellious lad, and to understand this story, we must break it down in to various parts.

1. Who was this waster? <sup>11</sup> Who was this boy anyway? It seems that Christ is trying to get a message over to us. You look in the (jewelry store) window, you see there a piece of black velvet spread out in the window, with some valuable stones upon it. Now the man is not interested in selling the velvet. But only as a background to show forth the brilliance of the stones.

2. Where is the far country? <sup>13</sup> We could just visualize the scene. We would be able to see, where the far country, exist. It wasn't necessarily over there in the (hog pen) but the far country is the place where men and women attempt to live a part from God.

3. Who are the swine? <sup>15</sup> Well, I think they symbolize the unfolding associates that the prodigal had.

4. What about the husk? <sup>16</sup> Well, that suggestive of the unwholesome diet that attempted to feed upon.

5. Who is the old father? <sup>20-</sup> It seems that he is playing the toll of God. So you see we have a wonderful picture, here, of course we do (not have) the names of boys given, we cannot locate the field that he met with great conviction. But we can take this story and think of all the characters involved. See that we have people that are here before us, that need this message, through committing the same faults and the same blunder.

Brent Roy May 31, 87 6.M ✓

Nov 4, 79 Am ✓

So Roy - July 9, 73 P.M. ✓

So Roy - Aug 11, 68 A.M. WVR (5) ✓

So Roy - July 31, 66 A.M. ✓

So Roy - Jan 5, 1958 P.M. - Amund ✓

So Roy - Jan 11, 1953 P.M. ✓



6. A great truth. He was dead. That is, he was lost. He had separated soul from God. He tried to live upon that, that only swine could exist upon. It shows us that step by step, go down in this condition. Many people pity the cast away, or the drinking gambler, but yet some of them are in the same condition.

A. He first said, Father give me <sup>12</sup> I shall inherit this later on and perhaps you would think about it a long time, before such a question. This boy was a legal heir, and if his father was willing to give it, who could criticize him. But when we think about his motives, we realize the downfall.

This means father, I have grown up, I no longer need you, nor the strenghts of home, I want to get out on my own, I want liberty, my life is my life and I have got to have it. I am going out in my own strenth.

How many men and women, in prominent life rebel against any limitations or restrictedn of God moral laws, they do not like the preacher to point out their duties, I want to live as I please, I know what I want and so there is no restrength.

The head usher in one of our large Southern Baptist Churbhes. was a leading business man, one day he said, to his paster, I've been wanting to tell you something for a long time, I love you, I love your preaching, but I'm worried, I owe losts of money, I just built a new house, and I think it is wise for me to step out of church for about 10 years or maybe 15, and devote my whole time to my business. He saying now is my opportunity to make losts of money, he said, I'm going to come back to the church someday, I will have my fortune, but I haven't time for the church right now. A lost of men get that foolish idea, but that is a noose about your spiritual neck, so this young men went through with it, he never came back, after that day to church.

We can fly into the face of God, like that and hope to get away with it, we can say, now let me have my fling.

B. The boy gather altogether, and took his journey, he lost everything he had, you might say tonight, that doesn't apply to me, he had an automobile, or he has the time of his life, or my daughter is a popular girl in the community, but if God has been crowded out of their lives, they are living in a far country. Indeed we might spend much time on this far country, we must forget the idea that it is some place hundreds of miles away, but it is a place where you

attempt to live life, apart from God. It may be in your family circle, in your business, in your social life, or in the nation. I read about the fall of Greece and Rome in History, and never thought that I would in my life time watch a nation fall, but we have seen Germany, Japan, and France, seems like the whole world colapse. There are more girls selling liquor, then we have in colleges, we are wondering what is going to happen to us being out of church, and be in a far country.

It is not unusual for people to move into town and the devil whispers, just keep your membership back their, your father, your mother is buried there, if you move you will have to give some money. You go back once a year, for the homecoming. And a big dinner, and most people obey him. That is foolish. Becuase it doesn't pay to be out of contact with God.

A pastor was called by a friend to go to a certain couple, and so he went on (Sunday afternoon) he found a lovely home, beautifully furnished, and there had a interesting visit, and the next day, this woman called, and said, I must talk to you, she said, when you where here the other day, I had attempted suicide, my husband had kept me from it, but following your visit, he said, maybe God cares, maybe he sent you, and then she told, how that she had, back in a Texas town, she had loyally supported her church, but she had moved a Atlanta, she had joined every club in the city and her husband was making plenty of money and she said, this is how it happened. Said, I have tried to live in this great city, without God and without the church, of course, people say, it can't happen to me, but some are living in that far country right now.

7. The steps back are very simple, we see this son, down in the very bottom of life.

A. He comes to himself, that is exactly what must happen, he thinks about his own condition acually, he admits he has been foolish, he does not try to scream behind some wicked church member, he saw his ragged garments, and he knew back yonder, that his father had plenty. When a man comes to that realization he is ready to start.

*Some years ago a Grand Trunk line Railroad offered a prize of 2500 for the first person who could say a word in 3 days - but 3 words for living you have run this word, cost \$33.33 a word is 3 days - but 3 words for living nothing unless people had them - dirty cans - dirty people, no protection unless people had money*

B. Action followed this conviction. Many people know that they are living on a low level, but they just stay there. But this boy, said, I am coming, back, I'm going to repent.

You see this (boy coming home), you might see the father watching, perhaps the old man has tears in his eyes and the boy



Gun  
V. 17  
Conscience Brings Him Back

# Murder Charge—23 Years Late

By STEVE CAPLAN

Virginian-Pilot Staff Writer

NORFOLK—A tall, gaunt, 63-year-old man asked Policewoman Bertha Annette Smith for directions to the police station Friday afternoon as she was standing in the back parking lot of the Public Safety Building on City Hall Avenue.

"He looked so old," she said of the shambling, partially bald man. "I said I would take him in because I thought he would get confused with all the turns in the hall to get to the 1st Precinct.

"Then he said he wanted to turn himself in for something he did in 1945," Miss Smith said. "He said, 'I killed a man in self-defense.'"

The man, who cannot read or write, was taken to the detective Bureau. He was wearing faded green work pants and a nondescript shirt as he sat in the corner of the bureau office telling the story for which he had traveled from North Carolina to tell.

The man said he lived in the 300 block of E.

Olney Road Sept. 9, 1945. Several friends came to his door, he said, and another man was with them. He did not want the extra man in the group to enter his house, he said, and told him so.

He told slowly and carefully how the man left his house, only to return later with a knife and try to enter.

The intruder was shot between the eyes with a .410-gauge shotgun, the man said.

After the story was told Friday an old warrant was found in Central Files. It called for the arrest of Frank Allen on a charge of murdering Thomas Alston. The late Leon Nowitsky had drawn the warrant. His partner in the 1945 investigation, Officer E. M. Towe (now deputy police chief), was called in Friday to secure a new warrant because codes have changed in the 23 years since the shooting.

And on Aug. 9, 1968, Frank Allen was charged with murder in the shooting of Thomas Alston.