



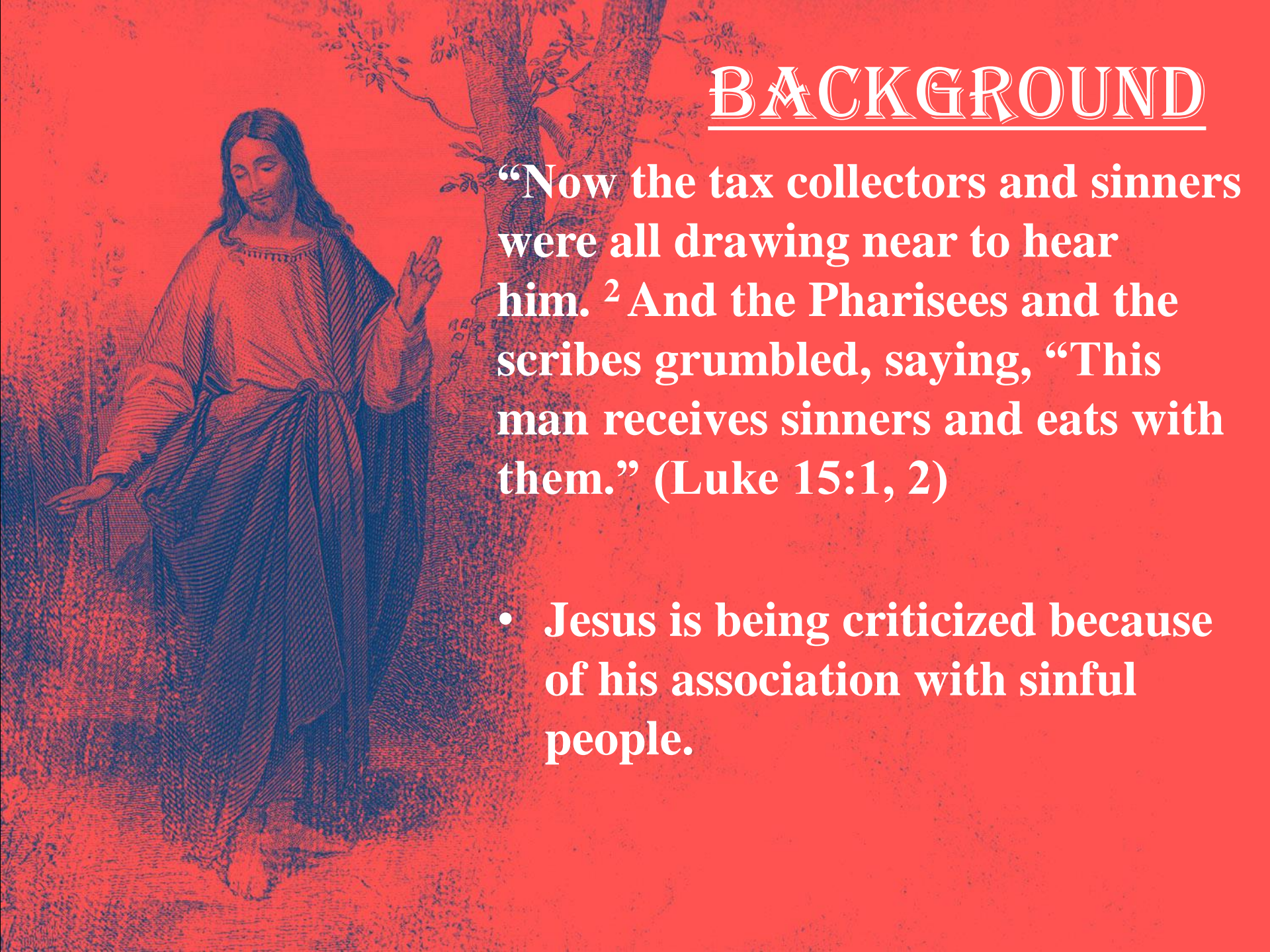
THE PRODIGAL SON

Luke 15:1, 2; 11-32

BACKGROUND

“Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” (Luke 15:1, 2)

- **Jesus is being criticized because of his association with sinful people.**



SCENE ONE: THE PRODIGAL DEPARTS

“¹¹ And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

SCENE ONE: THE PRODIGAL DEPARTS

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’” ^{20a} And he arose and came to his father.”

SCENE ONE



- The biggest issue the younger son faces is the famine.
 - A famine meant he'd be lost forever (death)
- He developed a plan: Go home and work as a hired hand.
 - “Dad, I’ll pay you back if you let me live here.”

SCENE TWO: THE FATHER SEEKS THE RETURNING PRODIGAL

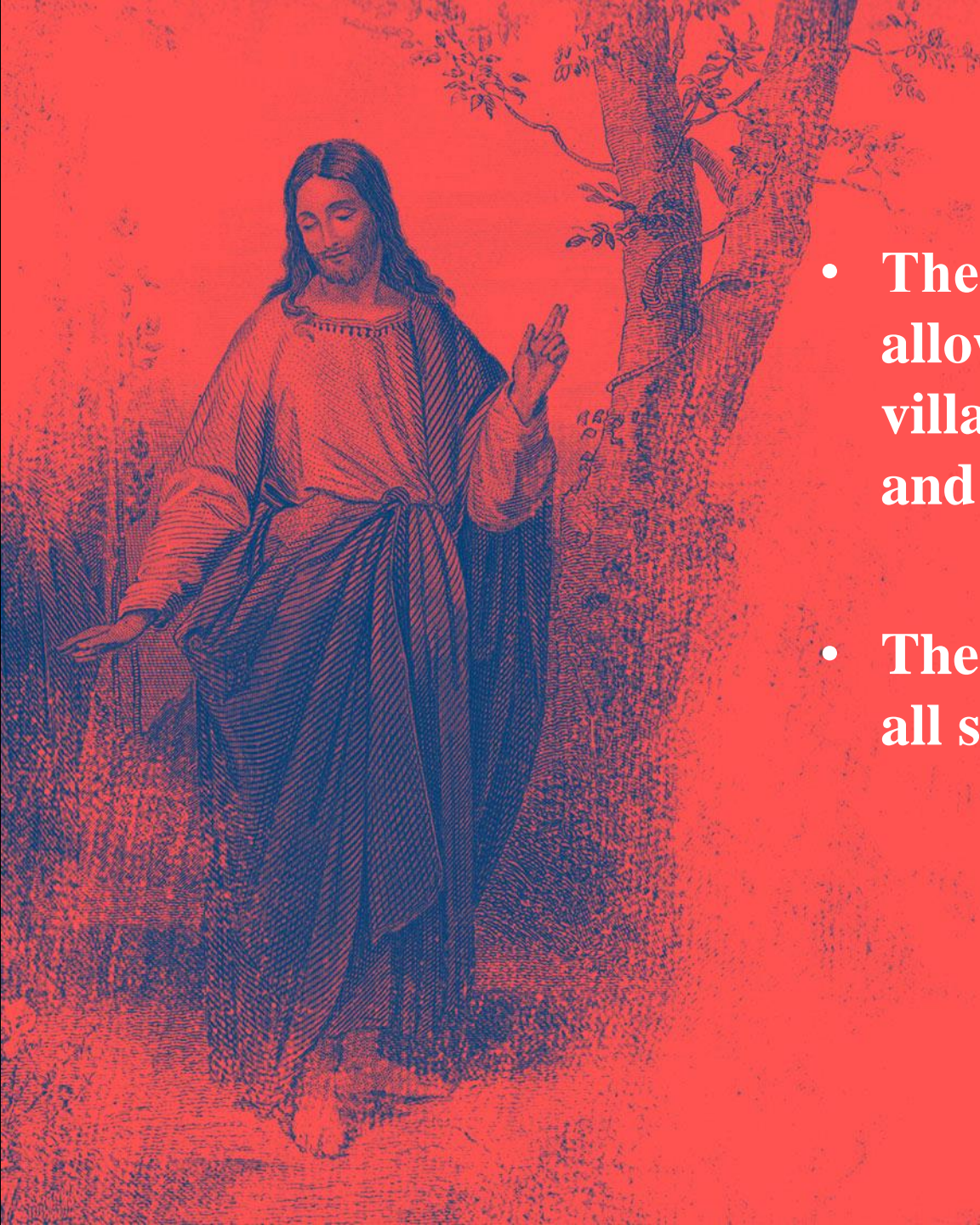
“^{20b} But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.”

SCENE TWO



- **The Father Runs....why?**
 - He loves his son and he wants to get to him before the village elders do.
 - “A man’s manner of walking tells you what he is.”

SCENE TWO



- The Father's actions will allow the son to enter the village under the protection and care of his father.
- The Robe, Ring, and Shoes all signify sonship.

SCENE THREE: THE OLDER BROTHER PROTESTS

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’

SCENE THREE: THE OLDER BROTHER PROTESTS

²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

SCENE THREE



- Complaint #1 – Look how you’re treating me after everything I’ve done for you. (vs. 29)
- Complaint #2 – Look how you’re treating him after everything he’s done to you. (vs. 30)
- The older brother is not as good as he looks on the outside.
- He is just as lost as the younger brother.

MAIN IDEA

JESUS SEEKS THE UNRIGHTEOUS

&

JESUS SEEKS THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS



2 KINDS OF PEOPLE

LOST

&

FOUND.



2 WAYS OF BEING LOST

UNRIGHTEOUS
LIVING

&

SELF-RIGHTEOUS
DEEDS

Being close in proximity, doesn't necessarily mean close relationally.



ARE YOU SEEKING THE LOST?

If not...

then maybe, Jesus is still seeking you.