

The Story of the Prodigal Son
(As Told by a Self-Taught Young Preacher)

A pulpit committee of a certain church was searching for an interim pastor to fill their vacant pulpit. They finally came upon a young man who had just become a Christian and wanted to go into the ministry. Although he couldn't go to seminary, he taught himself that he knew by reading the Bible constantly.

The pulpit committee said to the prospective interim, "We're very impressed with the information that you have given to us about yourself, but we are interested in just how much of the Bible do you really know? Can you share some of your Bible knowledge with us?" "Well," the young preacher said, "How about the story of the prodigal son?" The committee said, "That will be just fine." So the young man commenced to tell them the story of the prodigal son:

"The prodigal son went down to Jericho and fell upon stony ground, and the thorns sprang up and choked him half to death. The next morning Solomon and his wife, Gomorrah, came down the road and saw him and had compassion upon him and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and giving him wine for his stomach, and put him on their donkey and took him down to the ark for Moses to take care of him. And as they were going through the Eastern Gate to enter the ark, his hair got caught in the branches of an oak tree and he hung there for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was an hungered. Then ravens came to him and brought bread and fed him as he sat by the brook Kishon.

"The next morning three wise men named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came by and took him on down to the boat dock. From there they caught a boat sailing to Nineveh. As he approached that great city, he saw that wicked woman Delilah sitting on the city wall. He said unto those that were with her, "Throw her down, boys!" And they said, "How many times shall we throw her down, seven times?" And he said, "Nay, but I say unto thee seventy times seven!" So they threw her down from the wall 490 times and she broke into thousands of pieces. And they picked up the fragments thereof, twelve baskets full. And they said unto him from the wall, "And in the resurrection, whose wife shall she be?"

Then the young preacher finally stopped, and the pulpit committee just sat there and stared at him in sheer amazement, when finally the chairman of the pulpit committee spoke up and said, "Boys, he's young, but he sure does know his Bible!"