

AHA
(Awakening / Honesty / Action)

(1) Sudden Awakening

~ **AHA** ~

**A SUDDEN RECOGNITION... THAT LEADS TO AN HONEST
MOMENT... THAT BRINGS LASTING CHANGE!**

Luke 15:11-32...

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. 13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.

14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' 20 So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. 21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. 25 "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. 27 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' 28 "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. 29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' 31 "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

THREE KEY INGREDIENTS to AHA...

1. Sudden AWAKENING

2. Brutal HONESTY

3. Immediate ACTION

~ DISTANT COUNTRY ~

SUDDEN AWAKENING ~ COMING TO OUR SENSES

Luke 15:17...

“HE CAME TO HIS SENSES”

2 Chronicles 36:15a (NKJV)

*And the Lord God of their fathers sent warnings to them by His messengers,
RISING UP EARLY and sending them,*

2 Chronicles 36:15b...

“... because He had COMPASSION on His People.”

A Few Ways GOD RISES UP EARLY to SOUND THE ALARM in your life...

1. HIS WORD... AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME!

2. THE WORDS OF SOMEONE IN YOUR LIFE!

Proverbs 27:6... Wounds from a friend can be TRUSTED!

3. FUTURE CONSEQUENCES!

Sometimes... God will bring a COINCIDENTAL INCONVENIENCE!

4. THE EXAMPLES OF OTHERS BEFORE US!

SUDDEN AWAKENING ~ DESPERATE MOMENTS

*Two Primary Ways that we arrive at a **DESPERATE MOMENT** in our lives...*

1. DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES

2. DESERVED CONSEQUENCES

Luke 15:14...

*“...there was a **severe famine** in that **whole country**...”*

2 Corinthians 7:10...

*For God sometimes **USES SORROW** in our lives
to help us **turn away from sin** and **seek eternal life**.*

DESPERATION REVEALS DEPENDENCE!

EVEN IN HIS REBELLION... HE WAS DEPENDENT ON HIS FATHER!

**HOW DESPERATE DOES YOUR SITUATION HAVE TO GET...
BEFORE YOU REALIZE YOUR DEPENDENCE?**

SUDDEN AWAKENING ~ STARTLING REALIZATIONS

Luke 15:17...

*“How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare...
and here I am starving to death!”*

STARTLING REALIZATIONS often begin with...

SOLITUDE and SILENCE

Psalm 46:10...

BE STILL and KNOW THAT I AM GOD!
