

## Sin: A Downward Spiral of Dissatisfaction

*“<sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.” – Luke 15:14-16.*

Recall that the young man’s desires drove him to leave his father’s home for a life of adventure and fun. He longed for all that such a life offered and got his **‘temporary high’** from his extravagant and wild living. Now that he had wasted all his wealth, he was still in need. He thought that this life of partying would have brought him happiness but it did not. Instead it brought him to a state of poverty, and much misery. In order to make a living he sought to work for a citizen of that country.

His job was the menial task of feeding the swine. Remember, this young man was once well-cared for by his father. Now he was working in a pig sty. Even in that lowly state he was still in need:

*“He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating.”*

His life of sin was a downward spiral of dissatisfaction. First he enjoyed the extravagant and wild living. That only satisfied him for a short time until his money ran out, and he could no longer support his habits. Then he got a job but still he had unmet needs. There was a longing even for the food that the pigs ate.

Matthew Henry concludes:

*“A sinful state is a state of perpetual dissatisfaction. When the prodigal began to be in want, he thought to help himself by going into service. That which sinners, when they depart from God, promise themselves satisfaction in, will certainly disappoint them; they are labouring for that which satisfies not. Isaiah 55:2. Husk are food for swine, but not for men.”*

May the eyes of our hearts be opened today.

*Heavenly Father,*

*“Thank You for Your Word. I have set my heart on pursuing the things of this world which have only left me dissatisfied. I recognize that it is only in Your Son Jesus that I can be truly satisfied and be happy. Give me the wisdom to know the difference. In Jesus’ mighty name I pray with thanksgiving. Amen.”*

**Memory Verse:** *“Why spend...your labour on what does not satisfy?”- Isaiah 55:2.*