

The Eldest Dilemma

by Pierre R. Fulford

Vice has a way of making us believe the door is better closed,

Virtue has a way of challenging us to leave it open,

And parables told by Jesus always make for a great case study:

Youngest, just demanded independence from his father and the family business, relocates outta state,

Recession hits,

Bout our focus isn't him,

It's the eldest who has just received news that his estranged brother is back,

A conversation between Vice and Virtue has resurrected in his heart,

Now let's contrast:

Vice says:

If anyone deserves it I deserve it,

To be celebrated,

Always upheld the family business,

Never dishonored father's name or image,

But my estranged brother,

He made himself a stranger,

Lost it all during the recession,

He brought upon himself that failure,

But now fathers reinstating his position in the family business,

And expects me to celebrate like he ain't disgrace our family name, image, and legacy,
what a mockery,

Virtue says:

I'm glad to see my brother back on this day,

The recession didn't take him out,

Thank the heavens instead it brought him back from outta state,

Seems more like out of a grave,

My brother, friend, and business partner,

We got some new memories to make,

And fully reinstated, father must have a great plan in place,

Vice says:

What are we some charity case,

He chose to take his chances and leave the state,

Recession hits,

Back again,

And I'm suppose to rearrange my schedule and celebrate,

Sounds like more resources going to waste, there goes my raise,

And what standard does this set for anyone else who leaves,

Always open arms like nothing happened in the first place,

What's going on with father and his head space,

Virtue says:

I can't believe it,

He's really back, like what,

I wish father had put me over the budget cuz this celebration ain't big enough,

This is a big deal,

Like, just imagine what message this sends,

Everyone knows how he left, but look how he's made it right, now that's a story investors invest in,

And then to make him an executive, with his experience, now father, that's ingenious.

Vice says:

He had what he had coming,

Of course he's back wanting a hand out,

Thought he knew enough to do his own thing,

Yep, then he quickly finds out,

And father expects everyone here to care now,

Like oou, he spent some time in a shelter,

Always overly ambitious, glad something finally got him to chill out,

But here comes father always playing Mr. Bail out,

And no consequence, just welcome back home now,

Virtue says:

I can't imagine what my brothers been thru,

What he's seen, what he felt, it all had to be terrible,

The fact he's still standing is incredible,

Some never make it back, this truly is a miracle,

Man, I wish there was a way I could've helped out sooner, if only he was reachable,

I know, some advisors are saying this ordeal wouldn't have happened if he was teachable,
But father got it right, wrong turns can be forgiven, what matters most is how you make it thru,
And my brother made it back,
And that's says so much about his fortitude,
Then knock on the door,
Hey bro it's me!
And I gotta friend I want you to meet!
The dilemma,
Vice or Virtue,
When it's our turn which do we choose,
The eldest opens,
His heart,
Youngest with the widest grin on his face,
Hey bro, this my friend Joshua, we met when I was outta state,
Joshua extends his hand to shake,
Bandages around his wrist,
Their palms collide,
And at that moment the eldest knew there was something very different about his brother's friend,
As he welcomes them both in.