

**Sermon Notes**  
**April 9, 2017**

**“The Bad, Better and Best”**  
**Matthew 21:28-32**  
**Pastor Bill Hoffman**

Setting: What do Jesus’ words and actions in 21:1-22 say or imply about who he is, and about the answer to the question about his authority (verse 23)?

The parable: God is represented by the father; who is represented by each of the sons? What is praiseworthy and what is problematic about each of them? With which do identify more?

- How is Jesus – the Son telling the story – good news for those who identify more with the first son? With the second?

Response: What did it mean for the “tax collectors and sinners” to “repent and believe” – first in John the Baptist, and then in Jesus? What would it have meant for the religious leaders he was addressing? What does it mean for people today?