

# Book Recommendation

## The Return of the Prodigal Son, by Henri Nouwen

A Beloved Priest's Last Great Spiritual Adventure - Who was Henri Nouwen? And why do we urgently need to hear his voice today? On *The Return of the Prodigal Son*, you will learn how a chance encounter with a painting by Rembrandt led this beloved Dutch priest and writer on the last great spiritual adventure of his life. Celebrated as the author of many books on contemporary spiritual life, Nouwen spent his final years ministering to handicapped adults before he died unexpectedly in 1996. In this rare archival session, Nouwen shows how, like the prodigal son, we find ourselves today in a "distant country" where we spend our lives searching for love where it can never be found. Nouwen explores the "mystery of homecoming," into the embrace of an all-loving, all-forgiving God who is both mother and father. Enriched with many stories from Nouwen's remarkable life as a theologian, a peace-worker, a pastor, and a seeker.



An anonymous review of this title;

This book is terrific! I have never looked at the parable of the Prodigal Son through the lens of Rembrandt's painting although that particular parable is one of my favorites and Rembrandt is my favorite painter. Henri Nouwen's book is accessible and spiritually filling at the same time. Each chapter reminds us of how the world and our own lack of self-esteem can interfere with our relationship with the all-loving God. The book is broken up into chapters that reflect the perspective of the artist and the figures in the painting (who reflect the characters in the parable). Nouwen reveals how the painting and the story reflect issues in his own relationship with God and issues that no doubt affect our relationship with God as well as steps to correct the problems. I recommend this book highly.

Can be purchased online, or at most bookstores