

Luke 14:16-24 ¹⁶ Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: ¹⁷ And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. ¹⁸ And they all with one *consent* began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. ¹⁹ And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. ²⁰ And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. ²¹ So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. ²² And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. ²³ And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled. ²⁴ For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

- I. Introduction
 - A. Parable is a story with heavenly meaning
 - B. Jesus was on journey from Galilee to Jerusalem in the last month of his life
 - C. Parable of guests at wedding feast (vs 7-11)
 - D. Jesus comment about inviting guests to a meal (vs 12-15)
 - 1. Invite those who cannot repay you
 - 2. Do not invite relatives, friends, or neighbors who can repay you
 - 3. Your blessing to others will be repaid in the afterlife
 - E. Prologue: Dinner companion makes remark, "Blessed is he that shall eat food in the kingdom of God." (Lk 14:15)
 - F. Jesus parable is about invited guests rejected & uninvited guests accepted

- II. The Meal in the Parable
 - A. Description of the Meal
 - 1. Large meal at power event
 - 2. Many invited guests

 - B. Depicting of the Meal
 - 1. Heavenly meaning that the Jesus is the man give a great feast

Quote: Christ, in one word, is the sum and substance of the great supper." – J.C. Ryle

John 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

2. Jesus is the foundation of salvation

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved..

1 Corinthians 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

III. Message of the Parable

A. People for the Message – invited guests

1. Invited guests had answered with RSVP & made reservations to come
2. Command for each person to repent

Acts 17:30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent:

B. . Provision in the Message

1. Guests informed that “Everything is ready.”

John 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

2. God made Jesus wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, & redemption
 - a. Jesus is wisdom of God (1 Cor 1:24)
 - b. Jesus is righteousness (Rom 3:25)
 - c. Sanctification: declared sinless (2 Cor 5:21)
 - d. Redemption: bought with a price (Mk 10:45, 1 Cor 6:20)

1 Corinthian 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

IV. Meanness in the Parable – invited guests were mean & cruel

A. Purpose in God's Mercy

2 Corinthians 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.)

Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

B. Priority of the Message

Quote: To refuse the second summons would be an insult, which is equivalent among the Arab tribes to a declaration of war." – A.T. Robertson

1. Host individually contacted each guest again to show up
2. But no one came to the feast

C. The Endorsement

1. Everyone made an excuse to not come
2. From Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 7:13-14 ¹³ Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: ¹⁴ Because straight *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

D. The Excuses – "I cannot come"

1. Land excuse – visit new property
2. Livestock excuse -need to try out my new work animals or my new vehicle
3. Lady excuse – married a new wife
4. Such excuses do not make sense doing them in the dark to get out of evening meal
5. Israel's ancient law against military service for newly weds

Deuteronomy 24:5 When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business: *but* he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken.

E. Enragement – anger

1. Host became angry

Colossians 3:6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Psalms 7:11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry *with the wicked* every day.

2. Host makes new plan

John 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

3. He refuses to waste all the food

4. Door to invited guests closed

Quote: Sinners, who persistently and blatantly continue to reject the overtures of divine mercy, will tremble too late when they find themselves in the hands of an angry God. Once the doors of the gospel banquet are closed, Christ's rejecters will clamor in vain for admission."—**Herbert Lockyer**

Hebrews 10:31 *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

5. Grace forfeited (lost) is grace despised

F. Mercy in the Parable

A. Crowd receiving the invitation

1. He has uninvited the former guests

Revelation 3:17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

Matthew 15:14 Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

2. Host invites new guests

3. He invites the poor, crippled & blind

John 9:4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

B. Guests compelled in the invitation

1. Still empty seats remain

Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

2. Bring in homeless from highways & hedges
3. Inspire people to come in

Matthew 14:22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

V. Conclusion

- A. Whoever exalts (boasts) himself shall be abased (brought low). Whoever humbles himself shall be exalted (raised up). – (Lk 14:11)
- B. Whoever helps someone who cannot repay, will be recompensed (rewarded) at the resurrection of the just. (Lk 14:14)
- C. None of those former invited guests shall taste of God's final meal
- D. God's invitation

Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Revelation 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

Decision

Did you make a decision for Christ today? Tell us about it he

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