



## "The Parable of the Great Feast!"

### Luke 14:15-24

During the last two Sundays, we have seen where Jesus was invited to a dinner by the Pharisees. Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath who was dying, and the Pharisees hated him for it still! Jesus rebuked them for their beliefs and views and then talked on living humble! Today, we see Jesus conclude the dinner with the Parable of the Great Feast!

#### 1. There is not an automatic ticket to Heaven!

- Luke 14:15
- The Pharisees were Jews! The Pharisees believed that ALL Jews had an automatic ticket to Heaven and Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Jesus)!
- *They believed that they were the only ones invited!*
- **Why? They are the Hebrew nation...the physical heirs of Abraham!** They **THOUGHT** that this Great Feast, accompanied with Abraham, would be an automatic ticket!
- Yet, in **Matthew 8:12**, Jesus rebukes their belief and arrogance on this! Jesus tells them that they will be **cast out** for not believing and receiving Him!
- This morning, whether Jew or Gentile, there is only **ONE WAY** to Heaven and the Great Feast! This is **only through Jesus!** **John 14:1-6, John 1:12, Romans 10:13**
- There is no certain people group, race or ethnicity that has an automatic ticket to Heaven! **None!**
- The Jews thought that they had a seat at the table, and Jesus tells them here in this story that they **will not have a seat at the table at all!** (Luke 14:24)
- **So, Jesus replied with this story...**

#### 2. The Great Feast (Supper)!

- **Luke 14:16** – "A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations."
- The expectation was that all who were invited would attend! No one would miss this!
- But, this was not the case! **Luke 14:17** – "When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests."
- The **pre-invited guests** were notified when the final preparations were ready!
- **Here is the point of this verse:** The **pre-invited guests** refers to the people and nation of Israel! They were told in the Old Testament to be ready for the Messiah (Jesus) to arrive! **But, instead they rejected Jesus!** **Matthew 4:17** was His message!

- Mark 6:3 / John 6:42 (You have to see with faith...not natural eyes!).
- Luke 4:28-29 – Emotions were their choice instead of belief and faith!
- John 1:11 – It does not get any clearer than this!
- Matthew 11:6 – This is still the choice of everyone today!

#### A. Excuses!

- Luke 14:18 – “They ALL began making EXCUSES...”
- It’s amazing what excuses people come up with that has anything to do with putting and keeping Jesus FIRST! It’s crazy!!!
- Excuses are all based on pride and insecurity!
- Luke 14:18 – A person does not purchase property without FIRST seeing it! So, since the purchase was already complete, there was no urgency to have to go see it and miss this great feast! The land would still be there AFTER the banquet!
- Luke 14:19 – A person does not purchase oxen without TESTING them FIRST!
- Luke 14:20 – The man recently married was already excuses from work and military (Deuteronomy 20:7 / 24:5) for his marriage/honeymoon time! Yet, there was no legitimate excuse for him to miss the great feast!
- The point that Jesus is making here? There is **NO EXCUSE** for you to miss Heaven!
- Heaven came down to you already John 1:14! Jesus showed us everything that we need to believe in and live for Him! **We have NO EXCUSE!** | John 2:6

#### 3. Pride, arrogance, entitlement and status will give your seat at the table to someone else!

- Luke 14:21 – “His master was furious and said...”
- God has given the GREATEST INVITATION ever to be with Jesus forever (John 3:16-17)!
- But, this is a picture of the Judgment of God on those who reject Christ! “perish”
- The invitation is given to ALL...not just the Hebrew nation! Luke 14:13
- Luke 14:21 – These are people whom the Pharisees deemed as unclean / unworthy!
- What a PICTURE here to the Jews that they will be HUMBLED for eternity / miss Heaven!

#### Closing: How GREAT is the grace and mercy of God? So BIG if you accept it!!!!

- Luke 14:22 – “There is still ROOM for MORE!”
- Verse 22 gives this group yet another chance to be saved!
- Here is the sad fact – God is more than willing to save sinners than sinners are to be saved!
- The Pharisees continued to reject Jesus Christ over and over again!
- Verse 23 - “Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges...” (This was telling the Pharisees that the Gentile regions would be reached and invited too!)
- Verse 23 – “urge anyone / compel them to come in” (not by force...but persuasion)
- Verse 24 – Jesus tells the Jews here that they will MISS the entire thing for eternity!
- **Heaven is NOT ALL INCLUSIVE!** It is for those who will repent of their sins, change after repentance and then put their faith only in Jesus and live for Him alone!