



"The Great Banquet!"

Luke 14:15-24

I love a good Banquet! Usually, you have a really great main dish with some amazing sides!  
Then dessert!!!!

Jesus shares a Parable about how many were invited to a Great Supper Celebration...and they rejected the offer from the Master of the house! Let's check it out...

### 1. Attend a Banquet in the Kingdom of God!

- Luke 14:15
- Jesus shared what He said to a man who had the viewpoint that only Jews would be invited to the future Heavenly Feast/Banquet one day! It was common among the Jews.
- Matthew 8:11-12 – Jesus says that many of the Jews will never be in Heaven! **Why?** They rejected Him as God and Messiah! Yet, the invitation is open to everyone else!
- This Parable shows us that everyone is invited to Heaven, YET they must turn to God with repentance, and accept Jesus and live for Him! John 3:16-17
- Luke 14:16 – Great Banquet with MANY invitations sent out!
- Interestingly, when the invitations were sent out...no one declined at that time!
- Luke 14:17 – The Banquet was ready! The Master of the House sent out his servant to let all of the guests know its time! Come to the banquet!
- Guests for a wedding were all **pre-invited** and given a general idea of the time!
- When everything was ready, the **pre-invited guests** were to be at the Banquet!
- **Here is the KEY: Israel is the pre-invited guest(s)!** The Old Testament scriptures, prophets and preachers told Israel to be READY for the coming Messiah! Jesus!

### 2. Excuses!

- Luke 14:18 – "But they ALL began making excuses!"
- Every excuse that is given in the next few verses are full of insincerity!
- Luke 14:18 – "I just bought a field and must inspect it!"
- A person does not purchase property without seeing it first! This was an excuse! Since the purchase was already complete, there was ZERO urgency!
- Luke 14:19 – "I just bought five pairs of oxen, and I WANT to try them out."
- You don't purchase oxen without trying them out first! This was an excuse!

- **Luke 14:20** – “**I just got married, so I can’t come.**”
- The Jews did not take a cruise or go to the Bahamas for their Honeymoon! They literally went to the house that the husband built! So, this was an excuse!
- You can be together at the Banquet, and then still go home together afterward...you newlyweds! 😊

### **3. The invitation is opened to Everyone!**

- **Luke 14:21** - *The pre-invited guests just got booted!* They lost out!
- Who got invited? “**The poor...crippled...blind...lame**” = **Romans 10:13**!
- The Jewish Pharisee’s regarded any other people as not chosen by God!
- The religious leaders of the day always condemned Jesus for His associations with reaching out to sinners to be saved!
- **Luke 5:29-30, Luke 15:1-2, Matthew 11:19 & Matthew 21:31-32!**

### **I love Luke 14:22! There is still room for more!**

- Notice the word “**urge!**”
- **Why is this so important?** Because, there is *a DAY coming* when it will *be too late!*
- **We must reach everyone now!** Remember last Sunday...no one knows when Jesus will return...we must be watchful and ready!
- The Good News is only Good News if it arrives on time for someone!

### **The HEART of the Parable? Luke 14:23 – “Go everywhere so that the house will be full!”**

- *Highways and hedges* = the Gentile regions! Open to everyone who would choose!

### **The sad reality? Luke 14:24 – “For none of those I FIRST invited will even get the smallest taste of my Banquet!”**

- This is not the Master of the House being mean! This is the people *rejecting the invitation!* **They REFUSED to come!**
- *Because of the Jews rejecting* the very One that God sent (**John 3:16**) His One and Only Son, *His judgment was the only result!*
- In 70 A.D., Jerusalem was burned to the ground because the Jews rejected and refused God’s invitation to be saved! **They MURDERED His One and Only Son!**
- They lost God’s Hand of Protection over them!

### **Closing: Matthew 28:18-20**

- **The Great Commission! “Go into all of the world!”**
- It is the *greatest invitation* to all of humanity!
- Jesus doesn’t want crowds...**He wants Disciples!**
- Remember our story today in Luke 14. It ends on verse 24 right? Nope!
- Look at **verses 25-27** – He teaches the multitude **that they need to be a Disciple...not just a fill a seat or be a number in the crowd!**
- See, it is up to you on *who you want to become in Jesus* and *where you want to serve!*