

The Great Supper— 06/14/20

TEXT- Luke 14:16-24 *Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: 17 And sent his servant at supper time*

INTRO –

- **There is no reference to the ones that accepted the invitation**
- **The emphasis is on who rejected the invitation**
- **It was a great supper – Many guests invited**
- **The supper was now ready – The servant invites everyone to attend**
- **Excuses were made why they couldn't come**
- **The report comes back to the master**
- **He sends the servant out quickly**
- **Out casts are invited**
- **Still more are invited from obscure places**
- **The master wants his house filled**
- **Those that had excuses were condemned**

A certain man – Represents God

The feast – An invitation to salvation

The servant – represents the message carried forth by believers

Those making excuses - Represent people too caught up in the world to have time for God.

Those excluded will be sent to hell

The Jews pictured their future kingdom as a great feast with the patriarchs as the honored guests.

Luke 14:16-24 *Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper,*

I. The Feast

A. It is spiritual food

Psa 34:8 *O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.*

Mat 4:4 *But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.*

Mat 6:11 *Give us this day our daily bread.*

1 Co 10:3-4 *And did all eat the same spiritual meat; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.*

B. It is a picture of only salvation will satisfy

John 4:14 *But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.*

Psa 19:7-11 *The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.*

C. It is the strength of every believer

1 Pe 2:2-3 *As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: 3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.*

Heb 5:12-14 *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. 13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. 14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*

II. The Invitation

A. To the Jew first

Rom 1:16 *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.*

B. To outcasts – poor, maimed, blind etc. publicans and sinners

Luke 15:11 *And he said, A certain man had two sons: . . .*

C. Go to the forgotten places of the world

Acts 13:46-47 *Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. 47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.*

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

III. The Excuses

The three people all had feeble excuses.

- The real estate transaction would not have conflicted
- Anybody who buys ten oxen without first testing them is a fool.
- A new wife would not have kept him from the feast

Excuses are just dressed up lies. We say, "I have a good excuse." But there's no such thing. A 'good' excuse is just a 'good' lie.

A. They were not interested in spiritual things

B. They were too busy with worldly things

There were many invitations to the Jews – The prophets, John the Baptist, Jesus, The Apostles

IV. The Response - There were two responses by the host:

A. He shut the door on the excuse-making guests

Mat 7:22-23 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

B. He got others to take their places at the feast.

God wants His house filled; and if those who are invited will not come, He will call others.

CONCL –

In the last sermon D.L. Moody ever preached he used our text of Luke 14. His title was simply, "Excuses." It was given in Kansas City in 1899 at the Civic Auditorium. Before going there he told his students in Chicago, "Never, never have I wanted more to see souls saved than in this service to come." In that service he felt a throbbing in his chest. And he held on to the organ to keep from falling. But he made no excuses and continued to preach the gospel. 50 were saved that night. He died a short while later. But he just had to give the invitation first, "All things are ready, come to the feast!"