

THE TRUE GOSPEL

100 SCRIPTURES ABOUT THE KINGDOM OF GOD

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THREE ATTITUDES ABOUT GOD'S INVITATION TO HIS KINGDOM

Luk 14:7 And he put forth a parable to those which were bidden, when he marked how they chose out the chief rooms; saying unto them,

Luk 14:8 When thou art bidden of any [man] to a wedding, sit not down in the highest room; lest a more honourable man than thou be bidden of him;

Luk 14:9 And he that bade thee and him come and say to thee, Give this man place; and thou begin with shame to take the lowest room.

Luk 14:10 But when thou art bidden, go and sit down in the lowest room; that when he that bade thee cometh, he may say unto thee, Friend, go up higher: then shalt thou have worship in the presence of them that sit at meat with thee.

Luk 14:11 For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Luk 14:12 Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor [thy] rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee.

Luk 14:13 But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind:

Luk 14:14 And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

Luk 14:15 And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed [is] he that shall eat bread in the **KINGDOM OF GOD**.

Luk 14:16 Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:

Luk 14:17 And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.

Luk 14:18 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.

Luk 14:19 And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.

Luk 14:20 And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.

Luk 14:21 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.

Luk 14:22 And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.

Luk 14:23 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.

Luk 14:24 For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

Note: There are three attitudes to examine here:

1. This attitude can apply to any feast we are invited to, but as we saw in Note # 36, the invitation to enter the Kingdom is like an invitation to a wedding. God the Father is planning his son, Jesus Christ's wedding to his church. And if you are invited to this or any great wedding or feast and accept the invitation, don't exalt yourself and choose the best seat or highest place for yourself as the Pharisees did. For if you exalt yourself, you will be abased.

2. The second attitude is that those who make a great supper should not invite only the 'best' people to their house who can 'repay' them. Here is God's example in inviting us to the great supper in his Kingdom. Those who do make a great feast and follow this example, are promised a reward at the resurrection of the just.

* 1Cor 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, [are called]:

1Cor 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;

1Cor 1:28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, [yea], and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

1Cor 1:29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.

3. The third attitude describes those who are invited to a great supper and make excuses as to why they cannot come. This attitude is also described in Note # 18 in the parable of the sower. The sower sows the seed of the word of God, but it fell among thorns and was choked. The thorns are symbolic of the cares and riches and pleasures of this life that choke off the desire to respond to God's invitation. Jesus shows here that if people who are invited to God's kingdom and then allow other things to get in the way of accepting the invitation, will be dis-invited.

This parable also shows that God invited the Gentiles to his Kingdom because those who were first invited, the Jews, refused.

* Act 13:45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.

Act 13:46 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.