

Parables of Grace

The Offer of Grace: The Great Feast

(Luke 14:15-24)

- Introduction:
1. Today, we begin a new series entitled, “Parables of Grace.”
 2. Jesus is called the “Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6) to those who believe in him, but to everyone else, he must have been a “thorn in their side.”
 3. A great example of that is recorded in Luke 14.
 4. Let’s examine a parable Jesus told in this chapter, discover what it meant to its original hearers, and make some application for us today.

I. The Setting

- A. (Luke 14:1-14).
- B. Jesus had been invited to eat bread in the house of one of the rulers of the Pharisees.
- C. While there, Jesus must have annoyed them greatly!
 1. First, he heals a man on the Sabbath (Luke 14:1-4).
 2. Second, he called them out for taking the best seats (Luke 14:7-11).
 3. Third, he called out the one who invited them for his guest list (Luke 14:12-14).
 4. Finally, he tells them a parable that must have convicted them (Luke 14:15-24).

II. The Parable

- A. (Luke 14:15-24).
- B. The meaning to the original readers.
 1. The Jews, who were God’s people, had been given a great invitation into the kingdom, but found every reason they could to decline the invitation.
 2. Therefore, God would open the invitation to others, i.e. the Gentiles.
 3. (Matthew 4:17; John 1:11; Romans 1:16; Acts 1:8).
- C. Application for us, today.
 1. Notice the “laughable” excuses offered (Luke 14:18-20).
 2. Notice the deportment of the Master (Luke 14:21).
 3. Notice the obligation enjoyed on the Master’s servants (Luke 14:23).
 4. Notice the supper wasn’t canceled (Luke 14:24).

- Conclusion:
1. Friends, God extended a gracious invitation to the Jews, and they largely declined his invitation.
 2. I don’t know if matters are significantly different today.
 3. All things are ready, come to the feast!