



Today's Message

Date: June 27, 2021
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: *Invited to the Greatest Banquet*

Text: Luke 14:15–24 (ESV)

¹⁵ When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” ¹⁶ But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. ¹⁷ And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ ¹⁸ But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ ¹⁹ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ ²⁰ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ ²¹ So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ ²² And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ ²³ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. ²⁴ For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’ ”

Introduction: In Luke 14:1-14, Jesus attended a Sabbath meal in the home of a prominent Pharisee. The host and his friends clearly rejected the message of Jesus (1-6), so Jesus challenged their selfish pride (7-14). Next he told a parable about a man who hosted a great banquet but was dishonored by those whom he invited. In

anger the host rejected the original invitees and filled his banquet hall with unexpected people.

The text has three parts: the setting, the parable, and Jesus' conclusion.

I. The setting: Great joy awaits those seated at Jesus' table in his kingdom ... 15

- A. This statement is correct ...
- B. but the speaker's assumptions were not.

II. The parable: Jesus invited his hearers to join him at the table. 16-23

- A. The host of the banquet invited many ... 16-17
- B. but they refused to come. 18-20
- C. Therefore, the host invited others. 21-24
 - 1. He rejected those who dishonored him... 21a
 - 2. and filled his banquet hall with unexpected people... 21b-22
 - 3. whom he brought in from unexpected places. 23

III. The conclusion: Jesus excludes from his kingdom everyone who refuses his invitation. 24

Today's take-home truth: Humble yourself before the Lord; trust Christ without delay.