

# *Kingdom Invitations*

*Luke 14:15-24*



## Luke 14:

15 ¶ When one of those who were reclining *at the table* with Him heard this, he said to Him, "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!"

16 But He said to him, "A man was giving a big dinner, and he invited many; 17 and at the dinner hour he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.' 18 "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first one said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land and I need to go out



## Luke 14:

and look at it; please consider me excused.'<sup>19</sup> "Another one said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please consider me excused.'<sup>20</sup> "Another one said, 'I have married a wife, and for that reason I cannot come.'<sup>21</sup> "And the slave came *back* and reported this to his master. Then the head of the household became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor and crippled and blind



## Luke 14:

and lame.'<sup>22</sup> "And the slave said, 'Master, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.'  
<sup>23</sup> "And the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the highways and along the hedges, and compel *them* to come in, so that my house may be filled. <sup>24</sup> 'For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste of my dinner.'"



# Luke 14:

1 ¶ It happened that when He went into the house of one of the leaders of the Pharisees on *the* Sabbath to eat bread, they were watching Him closely.<sup>2</sup> And there in front of Him was a man suffering from dropsy.<sup>3</sup> And Jesus answered and spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, "**Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath**, or not?"<sup>4</sup> But they kept silent. And He took hold of him and healed him, and sent him away.<sup>5</sup> And He said to them, "Which one of you will have a son or an ox fall into a well, and will not immediately pull him out on a Sabbath day?"<sup>6</sup> And they could make no reply to this.

7 ¶ And He *began* speaking a parable to the invited guests when He noticed how they had been picking out the **places of honor at the table**, saying to them,<sup>8</sup> "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for someone more distinguished than you may have been invited by him,<sup>9</sup> and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give *your* place to this man,' and then in disgrace you proceed to occupy the last place.<sup>10</sup> "But when you are invited, go and recline at the last place, so that when the one who has invited you comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will have honor in the sight of all who are at the table with you.<sup>11</sup> "**For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.**"<sup>12</sup> And He also went on to say to the one who had invited Him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, otherwise they may also invite you in return and *that* will be your repayment.<sup>13</sup> "But when you give a reception, **invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,**<sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed, since they do not have *the means* to repay you; for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

# Sabbath Dinner Talk

- Healing and doing the right thing (1-6)
- A parable about taking the "best" places
- Humbled or exalted... (7-11)
- Invite the poor, crippled and blind (12-14)
- Set up....

# Who are Blessed?

everyone who shall eat bread in the Kingdom

He is speaking of those at the table!

Jesus tells another parable...

Big Dinner, RSVP event - "many"

Call them in, it is time to celebrate

# Excused?

- . Bought land, need to see it? Not before?
- . Oxen teams - test drive?
- . Married so... Dt. 24:5 exclusion
- . In Eastern courtesy, an act of war!

# Master response

Anger... with a plan!

'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor and crippled and blind and lame.'

The ones "religious experts" call "cursed"!

*But there is still room...*

*“Go out into the highways and along the hedges, and compel them to come in, so that my house may be filled...”*

*anagkazo - compel, constrain*

*To drive, necessitate, to force, threaten, entreat, persuade*

# Excused End

- What person in the list would refuse?
- All about the invitation and the response!
- Goal: that my house would be FILLED!
- NONE who were invited... tragic!