

The Great Banquet In The Kingdom of God

Luke 14:1-35

Key Verse: 14:23

“Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.’”

1. Read verses 1-6. When and where was the banquet? Who was there? Why was Jesus being carefully watched? How did Jesus show God's mercy and answer his own question? How did he silence his accusers?
2. Read verses 7-11. What did Jesus notice about the guests at the banquet? What did he teach them? What should we learn? Read verses 12-14. What advice did Jesus give his host? Why should we invite those who cannot repay us? (Mt 25:36-40)
3. Read verses 15-24. Of what did this banquet remind one of the guests? What story did Jesus tell about this great banquet? Who were the invited guests? (Ro 9:1-5) When the invited guests were summonsed, what excuses did each give? Who finally sat down at the banquet table? Who do these represent? What does this parable teach us about the Kingdom of God?
4. Read verses 25-27. What must one overcome in order to be Jesus' disciple and sit at the heavenly banquet? What does he mean by "hate"? "Carry his cross"? In what way is the banquet invitation like an invitation to discipleship?
5. Read verses 28-30. Why is it important to count the cost before beginning to build? Read verses 31-33. Why must one make a decision to commit everything and risk everything before deciding to accept Jesus' invitation to discipleship? Read verses 34-35. What does it mean to be like salt? To lose one's saltiness?