


A Meal Reveals the Attitudes of Hearts


Luke 14:1 - 14

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January 11, 2009



Overview: Attitudes revealed at meals

- **Luke 14:1 - 6**
A Sabbath meal with a healing that reveals attitudes
- **Luke 14:7 - 11**
Picking out seats of honor at a meal reveals heart attitudes
- **Luke 14:12 - 14**
Who we invite to a meal reveals heart attitudes



Luke 14:1-6 parallels Luke 13:10-17

- A Healing on Sabbath (14:4 ↔13:13)
- Issue about Sabbath rules (14:3 ↔13:14)
- Presence of a ruler (14:1 ↔13:14)
- *Apoluo* "release" (14:4 ↔13:12)
- Analogies with animals (14:5 ↔13:15)
- The resolutions are ironic (14:2/5 ↔ 13:15/16)

(Green, *Luke*, 543, 544)



Another Sabbath test

■ 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.



The “Lord of the Sabbath” confronts its current caretakers

■ Luke 14:2 – 4a

And there in front of Him was a man suffering from dropsy. And Jesus answered and spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” But they kept silent.



They will keep water from killing an ox on Sabbath but not a man

■ Luke 14:4b-6

And He took hold of him and healed him, and sent him away. 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?” And they could make no reply to this.



They were watching Jesus, now He watches them

■ **Luke 14:7**

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,



Their love of honor could backfire

■ **Luke 14:8, 9**

“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, 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.”



Allow someone else to determine your status

■ **Luke 14:10**

“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.”



Theme in Luke: reversal

■ **Luke 14:11**

For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

■ **Luke 1:52**

He has brought down rulers from their thrones, And has exalted those who were humble. (Mary)



Reward: high social status

■ **Luke 14:12**

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."



Reward: Eschatological Blessings

■ **Luke 14:13, 14**

But when you give a reception, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, 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.



Implications and Applications

- 1) Avoid the attitude of self importance
- 2) It is imperative that we humble ourselves
- 3) The only status that matters is the status we have in God's eyes
- 4) We should not base our friendships and relationships on what others have to offer



- 1) Avoid the attitude of self importance

■ **Esther 6:6**

Haman came in and the king said to him, "What is to be done for the man whom the king desires to honor?" And Haman said to himself, "Whom would the king desire to honor more than me?"



- 1) Avoid the attitude of self importance

■ **Luke 20:46, 47a**

Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love respectful greetings in the market places, and chief seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets, who devour widows' houses, and for appearance's sake offer long prayers.



2) It is imperative that we humble ourselves

■ **1Peter 5:5b**

all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.



2) It is imperative that we humble ourselves

■ **James 4:10**

Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.



3) The only status that matters is the status we have in God's eyes

■ **2Corinthians 10:18**

For it is not he who commends himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends.

3) The only status that matters is the status we have in God's eyes

■ **Matthew 6:1**

Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven.

■ **Galatians 6:3**

For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

4) We should not base our friendships and relationships on what others have to offer

■ **James 2:1, 2**

My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism. For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes,

4) We should not base our friendships and relationships on what others have to offer

■ **James 2:3, 4**

and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives?
