

“The Great Invitation”

Luke 14:15-35

Pastor John Miller

I. Introduction

- A. Jesus is at a dinner party at the Pharisee’s house on the Sabbath Day
 - 1. He exposed their hypocrisy (vv. 7-11)
 - 2. He gave a parable on the need for humility (vv. 7-11)
 - 3. He called them to live for eternity (vv. 12-14)
 - a) “And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee; for they shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.” (v. 14)
 - 4. But the table talk is not over
 - a) Jesus gives two great invitations
 - 1) The call to come and dine (vv. 15-24)
 - 2) The call to come and die (vv. 25-35)

II. The Call to Come and Dine (Luke 14:15-24)

- A. God has made great provision for the salvation of man (vv. 16-17)
- B. The invitation is for all (v. 17)
- C. The invitation is refused by many (vv. 18-20)
- D. God wants heaven full (vv. 21-23)
 - 1. It’s amazing that anyone should be invited to the feast. It’s even more amazing that anyone should refuse to go (v. 24)
 - 2. To refuse God’s invitation is irrational and brings eternal death

III. The Call to Come and Die (Luke 14:25-35)

- A. *“True discipleship is as costly today as when Luke wrote. The world does not change except superficially. It has new gadgets but the same fears, hatreds, prejudices, lusts, greed, and cruelty. If the church is at peace with the world, it is the “church” which has changed, not the world. True Christianity is always a judgement upon the ways and values of the world, and the world resents and resists judgment. Being true to Christ today may cost one his job or his life. It may cost a pastor his pulpit or a layman a position or promotion. It may cost a statesman an election or a young person social acceptance. Discipleship is costly; not to follow the Christ is even costlier.” – Frank Stagg*

VI. Conclusion

- A. Count the cost
 - 1. Follow or reject
 - 2. Illustration- Jim Elliot- “No man is a fool...”