

MORNING SERMON OUTLINE
KINGDOM ETIQUETTE FOR GUESTS & HOSTS
Luke 14:7-24

1. Jesus – the rude guest? No! Jesus is LORD.

Big banquet – important host – big opportunity for Jesus?
But Jesus is not running for office, currying favor for votes;
Jesus is Lord!

He uses the occasion to reveal the character of God's kingdom,
& to challenge those present to change their thinking.
What He says should challenge us!

2. Admonition to guests – vv. 7-11

What Jesus sees: dinner guests scrambling for the "best" places
- places of honor nearest the host.

To this He says, "Don't do that!

Instead, take the lowest place and wait to be invited up higher."

He has in mind a different feast, a different Host, a *different standard*:

"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled; and he who humbles himself will be exalted." Vs.11 (Proverbs 25:6,7, Luke 22:24-27)

Believers in Jesus: Live by this Kingdom standard, and let God exalt you if and when it pleases Him.

3. Admonition to hosts – vv.12-14

Our Lord rebukes the host of the banquet for his guest list.

What's wrong with the guest list? Can't we have friends over for a pleasant meal and conversation?

But – again – Christ is thinking of another banquet, whose Host is God.

Shouldn't the pattern set by God, govern our social conduct?

Whom does God invite to His feast?

4. The banquet of God's kingdom – our hope & model – 15-24

One man "has ears to hear" the words of Jesus (v.15).

Jesus then directs the ***Parable of the Dinner*** to him (to US, too?).

Who is the Host? God Himself.

What is the dinner? The promised banquet of salvation.

When & to whom were the invitations first sent? To the Israelites,
through all the Old Testament era, announced by God's prophets.

And NOW, the banquet is about to be served (Messiah has come);
those invited reject the invitation.

For those who reject it (reject Jesus) – ***no place*** in the feast of
salvation.

Then what? The Lord invites to His feast all those who are disqualified
in the eyes of the Pharisees ("sinners") – AND outsiders from the
highways & hedges (unclean, wicked Gentiles, like US).

Do YOU (a sinner against God) deserve a place at His banquet table?

Are you grateful for the saving grace of Christ that brought you in?

Who should you be welcoming to dine with us?