

Daily Devotional, February 24, 2021

“Excuses”, (Luke 14:18, NKJV)

“Then He said to him, “A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’ But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.’ Still another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.’ And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’ Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.’ ”” (Luke 14:16-24)

The Parable of the “Great Supper” is exceedingly instructive and challenging. The Lord has come and invited many to the gospel feast. The invited guests are those children of Israel who had the gospel of the kingdom first offered to them. As it is written, “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him” (John 1:11). So it was that the great and glorious gospel of Jesus Christ went out to all men, Jews and Gentiles alike. This gospel festal gathering is at hand, and all men would do well to come before it is too late. The world will pass away, but heavenly things shall remain. Many folks in the parable refused to come because they were too busy focusing on the affairs of this life.

Are you making “excuses” to avoid a reckoning with the Lord? If so, you lack wisdom, for the reckoning is not one of judgment, but of grace and mercy, for those who accept the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We Christians feast on His peace and hope that endure and do not pass away. Let us also call our attention to the “servant” in the parable. This guy was inviting people, even compelling them through the strength of God to enter into heaven’s doors for eternal life. You have been a church person on Sundays only long enough. Stop making “excuses”, and get about the business of being a gospel driven soul winning “servant.”