



Who Will Feast with Jesus? July 29, 2018 Luke 14:15-24

“When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, ‘Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God’” (Luke 14:15).

Too often, people look far off into the future and miss the blessings of the present. While he was eating with Jesus, a man commented about eating in the kingdom of God in the future, and he missed the blessing of eating with the One who was preparing the great feast and inviting people into the kingdom of God as He taught. Most of the time, those who invited Jesus and His twelve disciples to dinner were quite wealthy. Some of these believed Jesus was the Messiah, but others did not. So, Jesus took the opportunity to teach another parable. He explained that some of those He was inviting into the kingdom of God would refuse the invitation because they were too worldly-minded. They focused their attention on themselves and their prosperity, rather than primarily on the things of God and how they could use their many God-given gifts to bless others. Whenever Jesus taught, He was inviting people into the kingdom of God in the present, with a glorious future yet to be realized; but self-centered listeners did not seriously consider His teachings. They were preoccupied with their business ventures and personal opportunities — they thought their many blessings were from God and certain signs of God’s acceptance. Therefore, Jesus spent much of His time inviting the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame into the kingdom of God; He urged them to accept the fact that God was blessing them through Him. No matter their background, all who believed in Him would feast in the kingdom of God.

1. What kind of people will eat the messianic banquet in the kingdom of God?
2. What seemed of most importance to those who made excuses when they were called to come to the banquet? What did that communicate to the host?
3. What kind of people went to the banquet and what does that mean to you?
4. What kind of excuses do people give today for not spending time with Jesus Christ and those who love God and Christ?
5. Why will some people be happier existing away from God and Christ after they die rather than live with God and those who love Him after they die, even while they are suffering torment because they have rejected God’s rule and the Kingdom of God?