

Being Subject to God's Kingdom – Luke 14:12-24

I. The Kingdom Requires Service and Obedience (12-15)

A. Properly Understanding God's Kingdom (12-14)

1. Don't give in order to be repaid by men (12) (serve the least)
 - a. Jesus told His host not to Invite friends, family, rich
 - b. These will repay you by inviting you
2. Give that God Will Repay You (13-14)
 - a. Use resources to bless the lowly (13)
 - poor, crippled, lame, blind
 - God will use His resources to bless you (14)
 - b. The Lowly cannot repay you (14)
 - You will be repaid in the resurrection
 - notice the word BECAUSE
 - Because they can't repay, God will

B. Misunderstanding God's Kingdom (15)

1. Jesus has just said blessing comes from serving in the Kingdom
2. A man said blessing comes from being served in the Kingdom
 - a. Jesus said, "You will be blessed" (14)
 - b. Man said, "Blessed is the one eating bread (15)
3. The Jew thought they were entitled.
4. They were God's people and would definitely be in the Kingdom

II. Man Refuses to be Subject to God's Kingdom (16-24)

(Jesus answers the man with a parable to clarify)

A. The Unconcerned Banquet Guests (16-20)

1. A Banquet is Given and Guests are Invited (16-17)
 - a. A man invited many to a great banquet (16)
 - the implication is that they RSVP, and agreed
 - banquets given for all sorts of celebrations
 - weddings, accomplishments, reunions, etc.
 - the man was probably celebrating an important event
 - b. The Banquet day arrived and he called for the guests (17)
 - they had already agreed to come
 - Now the day was here and he sent out word
 - "he called those who were invited"
 - "Come everything is now ready"
2. The banquet guests make excuses and decline to come (18-20)
(refusal at this point was culturally rude)
 - a. First one said he had to see a purchased field (18)
 - Common practice
 - His own holdings and standing were his priority
 - He owned the field, there was no hurry
 - He politely declined
 - b. Second one said he had to see a purchase of Oxen (19)
 - Also a common practice

- This was a wealthy man, most farmers would have only one, maybe two
- His priority was also His holdings
- He very politely declined
- c. Third, one said he was just married and cannot come (20)
 - Provision for married men to be off a year from army
 - Had nothing to do with a banquet
 - He simply refused to come
 - Put his own personal life before the banquet
- B. Those Invited Are Removed From Guest List (21-24)
 1. The banquet seats were given to others (21-23)
 - a. The angry master gave their seats to the lowly (21)
 - The master became very angry
 - i. It was an insult
 - The master had the servants invite the lowly
 - i. Sent him into the streets and lanes
 - ii. Call poor, crippled, blind, and lame
 - b. The angry master gave their seat to whoever would come (22-23)
 - After calling the low, there was still room in the hall
 - The master had everyone called
 - i. Into the highways and hedges
 - whoever wants to
 - doesn't matter if I know them or not
 - ii. Compel them to come.
 - strongly urge them (BDAG #2)
 - So that the house may be filled
 2. None of the original guests are allowed in (24)
 - a. None of those invited shall taste the banquet
 - Remember the man said, blessed is the one who eats...

To Be in God's Kingdom means to be subject to it.

One cannot follow after his own lusts and desires and think he is part of the army.

One cannot follow another master and think he serves Christ.

"Why do you call me Lord and do not do what I say?"