

#1 Parable of the Great Banquet

“Then said he unto them, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servants at supper time to say to them that they were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready,”—Luke, 14:16, 24.

#2 Introduction

A parable signifies no more than a similitude; use of natural things by way of allusion or comparison to help us understand spiritual things.

Parable= an earthly story with a heavenly (spiritual) meaning.

#3 Context

Our Lord Jesus Christ likens the Gospel invitation to a banquet.



#4 Context

In the conduct of those invited, we see exhibited the unbelief of the Jews to whom Christ came, and who first received the invitation of the gospel.

But on their unbelief, the offer of salvation was extended to the Gentiles.

#5 **Application**

- 1. That in the gospel, abundant provision is made for the spiritual needs of mankind.***
- 2. That the invitations of divine mercy include all ranks and conditions of men.***
- 3. That these invitations are free and full, and urgently & sincerely presented by the Lord Jesus Christ.***

#6 **Application**

4. That only self-excluders will be refused a place at the feast of salvation.

5. That it is the duty and interest of all, immediately and gratefully, to obey the invitation and sit down at the gracious banquet.

#7 Three Illustrative Excuses

- **Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the parable, reveals three illustrative excuses that men give in rejecting His salvation.**
- **To see how utterly irrational & absurd are the excuses that men make for not believing in Him.**

#8 The First Excuse

“I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused” (v.18)



#9 The Second Excuse

***“I have bought five yolk of oxen and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused”
(v.19)***



#10 The Third Excuse

“I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come” (v.20)



#11 Excuses for not coming to Christ

1. There is too much to give up



#12 **1. There is too much to give up**

Reasons this excuse is absurd:

- **God only asks you to give up the things that are harmful.**
- **What you give up is nothing compared to what you receive from Christ.**
- **What you give up for Christ is nothing compared to what Christ gave up for you.**

#13 Excuses for not coming to Christ

2. There are so many hypocrites in the church



#14 **2. There are so many hypocrites in the church**

Jesus said that there would be hypocrites right up to the judgment day. *“Many will say unto Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name, and in Thy name have cast out devils, and in Thy name done many wonderful works?’ And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me ye that work iniquity.”* (Matt. 7:21)

#15 2. There are so many hypocrites in the church

**How that is an excuse for rejecting the
love of God?**

**Then again, if there are hypocrites in the
church, there are also a great many good
people in the Church.**

Why focus only on the hypocrites?

#16 **2. There are so many hypocrites in the church**

You can't hide behind such an excuse.

“So then, every one of us shall give account of himself to God” (Romans 14:12).

You won't have to answer for the hypocrite, but you will have to answer for yourself!

#17 Excuses for not coming to Christ

3. I am a pretty good person



#18 **3. I am a pretty good person**

The Bible says, “There is none righteous, no, not one” (Rom. 3:10).

“For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23).

There is no hope for you outside the atoning blood of Jesus, shed on the Cross of Calvary.

#19 Excuses for not coming to Christ

4. I am too great a sinner to come to Christ



#20 4. I am too great a sinner to come to Christ

Listen to Paul's testimony in 1 Tim. 1:15

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief."

#21 **4. I am too great a sinner to come to Christ**

Jesus said that those who are well do not need a doctor, but those who are sick.

If you realize are a sinner, you must come to Jesus for salvation.

#22 Excuses for not coming to Christ

5. I cannot hold out



#23 **5. I cannot hold out**

**God does not ask you to hold out,
because holding out is not your
business.**

***Jude 24 says: “He (God) is able to keep
you from falling and to present you
faultless before the presence of His
glory with exceeding joy.”***

#24 Excuses for not coming to Christ

6. God won't receive me if I come



#25 **6. God won't receive me if I come**

Why is this excuse absurd?

Because it is contradicting God's plain statement in John 6:37, *"Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out."*

If you come to Jesus Christ, He will receive you just as you are.

#26 What is The Gospel?

Its Meaning:

Gospel = Good News!

*And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you **good tidings** of great joy, which shall be to all people” (Luke 1:10)*

#27 What is The Gospel?

Its Message:

“That Christ died for your sins according to the scriptures; and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures: And that He was seen of Cephas, and then of the twelve”

(1 Cor. 15:3-5).

#28 Why is The Gospel the Greatest News in the World?

Its Cure:

The only solution to man's problems –
the root of which is SIN

*“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of
God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our
Lord” (Romans 6:23).*

#29 **Why is The Gospel the Greatest News in the World?**

Its Benefits:

**Forgiveness of sin
Reconciliation with God
Gift of Eternal Life
Adopted as God's Child
Indwelt by the Spirit
Joint-heirs with Christ
And much more . . .**

#30 **How to receive God's salvation?**

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved”
(Rom. 10:9)

#31 Challenge

My friends, how shall you escape if you neglect so great salvation?

“I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins” (John 8:24)



#32 Challenge

Child of God, what is stopping you from faithfully serving the Lord Jesus?

Investments?

Business?

Family?

- **Will you repent & submit to Christ today?**