

ALL Are Invited!

Matthew 22:2-14; Luke 14:15-24

God enjoys feeding His people.

We see examples throughout the Bible:

- God stocked the Garden of Eden with
every tree...that is pleasing to the sight and good for food.
(Genesis 2:9, NASB)
- How did God commemorate His deliverance of His people from Egypt?
He commanded an annual feast (Exodus 12:1-28,43-51).
- In the midst of a barren wilderness,
God spread a banquet for His people:
manna, meat, and water from a rock (Psalm 78:17-29).
- Notice what kind of country God prepared for His people.
He repeatedly promised
a land flowing with milk and honey. (Deuteronomy 31:20, NASB)

So when Jesus told the banquet parable in Matthew 22 and Luke 14,
His Jewish listeners would have identified with
a great king who threw a feast for His people.

But then, Jesus said that those originally invited (that is, the Jews)
were indifferent to God's invitation.

His audience would have been shocked and offended!

Far from treasuring the pleasure of feasting with the King,
they were too busy,
too preoccupied to come to the feast.
They snubbed their King and His generosity.

What's more, those Jewish listeners would have been downright angered when
Jesus declared them to be unworthy of God's banquet.

Instead, God was inviting
the poor,
the crippled, blind, and lame,
both the evil and the good.

God was inviting the unclean GENTILES to replace them!!!

What was bad news for the Jews is
wonderful news for the rest of us:

God has thrown wide the doors.

He is aggressively inviting EVERYONE to His banquet.

EVERYONE is welcome to come and eat their fill of
true food:

not food that strengthens

only the body and
only for a few hours,
but food that strengthens and satisfies
body, mind, and spirit
completely and forever.

Come, EVERYONE!
And if you know some who seem unworthy of God's banquet,
bring them with you.
ALL are welcome!

Hymn: [This Is God's Banquet, and All Are Invited](#)

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