

WHAT'S IT WORTH TO YOU

LUKE 14

Text: Luke 14:16-23

(Luke 14:16-23) "Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: {17} And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. {18} And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. {19} And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. {20} And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. {21} So that servant came, and showed his lord these things. 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 hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. {22} And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. {23} And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."

Introduction:

The Lord Jesus was now in the house of the chief Pharisees eating bread. While there a man with a disease stood before Him and the Lord healed him.

While there the Lord put forth 2 parables to them. The one centered on pride, the other about salvation and service. It is the second in which we will look more closely at.

1. PROVISION (v. 16, 17)

(Luke 14:16-17) "Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: {17} And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready."

- A. A picture of God's abundant provision.
- B. The Lord has truly provided the means of salvation through His Son Jesus.
- C. Truly all things are ready.

2. PRIVILEGE

- A. It is a privilege to be saved.
- B. It is a privilege to be able to serve.

1. Many today have the idea that it is God who is privilege to have us as servants, but the opposite is true it is our privilege to be allowed to serve.

3. PROBLEM (v. 18)

(Luke 14:18) "And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused."

A. The excuses offered. (vs. 18-20)

(Luke 14:18-20) "And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. {19} And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. {20} And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come."

Illustration:

Spurgeon preached a message on a Sunday morning July 3 1864 entitled "A Bad Excuse Is Worse Than None."

Someone else defined an excuse as "the skin of a reason stuffed with a lie."

1. Must go and see a piece of land that I have purchased.

a. No one should buy land without previously having examined it.

2. Must go and prove the oxen I have purchased.

a. No one would ever purchase oxen without knowing their condition.

3. The excuse about marrying a wife was evidently based on Deut. 24:5, but that was not the contents of the verse.

B. Other excuse people offer for not trusting Christ or not serving Him after salvation.

1. They are too busy.

No man goes starving because he has not time to eat.

Now, if God has given time for us to support our natural frame, how much more has He given us time for us to feed our soul?

2. They are too good.

Illustration:

Often it has been said that the message preached was good for the wicked worldly people, but it wasn't necessary for respectable people.

3. They are too bad

(Romans 5:20) "Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:"

4. It seems too good to be true or it seems too easy.

5. I can't live it.

(Galatians 2:10) "Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do."

4. PRODUCT (JOHN 21)

A. Peter excused himself from doing service for the Saviour, and in doing so he took others with him.

B. You don't stop serving by yourself, it always affects others.

So What Is It Worth To You?

What's it worth to you to have a church to serve the Lord in and see people saved?

What's it worth to you to have a church for your children to hear the Gospel, get saved, and serve the Lord?

What's it worth to you to have a church that stands against worldliness, ecumenicalism, and compromise?

What's it worth to you to bring boys and girls in on busses?

What's it worth to you to have a church that loves bus riders?

What's it worth to you to have Sunday School that teaches children as well as adults the truths of the Bible?

What's it worth to you for your family to all go to Heaven?

What's it worth to you for your neighbors to go to Heaven?

Is it worth be stoned to death like Stephen?

Is it worth being cast into the lion's den?

Is it worth being thrown into the fiery furnace?

Is it worth being sold as a slave and being imprisoned like Joseph?

Is it worth standing in the face of opposition like Caleb and Joshua?

Is it worth having your back whipped like Paul?

It is worth a crown of thorns like our Saviour endured.

Is it worth having nails driven through your hands and feet?

Tell me what's it worth to you?

Close:

If it worth anything at all, then why are there so many excuses offered today?

(Matthew 6:21) "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

(Luke 12:34) "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

