

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Luke 14:16-23; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; Rev. 19:6-9

I. INTRODUCTION-

- a. Some of you remember that on the old television show Hee Haw that Grandpa Jones would sometime be asked "what's for supper?" and he would give the menu in a poem like this.
- b. *Were having fried chicken so crisp and hot; With tatters and gravy--make sure you take a lot; There's green beans and fatback and biscuits with butter; And cold cold milk, straight from the udder; And for desert, get ya some pie; There's sweet tater, apple and of course your favorite shoo-fly.* To which the audience would reply *YUMMMM YUMMMM!*
- c. This morning I want to talk about three suppers the Bible says that we are all invited to.

II. THE SUPPER OF SALVATION-

- a. *Luke 14:16-24 (NKJV) "Then He said to him, "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, 17 and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' 18 But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' 19 And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' 20 Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' 21 So that servant came and reported these things to his master. 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 here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.' 22 And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' 23 Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. 24 For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.' "*
- b. In this parable, Jesus compares salvation to a great supper, to a great feast and celebration.
- c. God has invited every person to the supper of salvation. He has invited every person to be saved from the penalty of their sin by receiving Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord.
- d. Listen to these invitations. *Matthew 11:28-29 (KJV) "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest...unto your souls."* *John 7:37 (KJV) "...If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."* *Revelation 22:17*

(KJV) “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

- e. I pray that everyone here has accepted God’s invitation to be saved. If you have not what is your excuse?
- f. One way Satan tries to hinder people from coming to Christ is by trying to convince them of how much they will lose if they become a follower of Jesus Christ.
- g. But the Bible says that when a person comes to the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved from sin, they are not coming to a funeral, they are coming to a feast!
- h. When the Prodigal Son repented of his sin and came home to his father, who represents God in the parable, the repentant son was covered in his father’s riches and his father threw a party.
- i. Jesus said that when a person who is lost accepts God’s invitation to be saved there is rejoicing in Heaven. Romans 10:12 says that the Lord is “*rich unto all that call upon Him*” for salvation.
- j. When a person comes to Christ they will lose some things. But whatever a person loses when they come to Christ is nothing compared to what they gain.
- k. The Apostle Paul literally lost everything on earth he once valued when he came to Christ. He lost his family, fortune, status, reputation, many friends and he eventually lost even his life for Christ.
- l. But Paul declared that what he had lost was nothing compared to what he gained when he came to Christ. *Philippians 3:7-8 (NLT) “I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord...”*
- m. The question is not, “What will I lose if I accept Christ?” The question is, “What will I lose if I don’t?” *Mark 8:36 (NKJV) “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?”*
- n. If you have never received Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior then quit listening to the devil and come to Christ and accept His invitation to be saved.

III. THE SUPPER OF COMMEMORATION-

- a. *1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NKJV) “For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed*

took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."

- b. The second supper the Bible invites us to is the Supper of Commemoration or the Lord's Supper by which we remember and commemorate what Christ has done to make our salvation possible.
- c. Only those who have accepted God's invitation to the Supper of Salvation can rightly participate in the Supper of Commemoration.
- d. The Lord's Supper vividly reminds us of the price Jesus paid to make our salvation possible.
- e. The Lord's Supper gives God's people the opportunity to gather together and express our love and gratitude to the Lord Jesus for what he did for us on Calvary and it gives us the opportunity to forgive one another and settle our differences and celebrate the oneness and unity we have in Christ.
- f. The Lord's Supper is also a sermon to those who have not accepted God's invitation to be saved. This is what Christ has done to make your salvation possible but you can only be saved if you repent of your sin and receive Him as your Lord and Savior.

IV. THE SUPPER OF JUBILATION-

- a. *Revelation 19:6-9 (NKJV) "And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! 7 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. 9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' " And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."*
- b. This is the Supper of Jubilation called the Marriage Supper of the Lamb when all of God's people from all the ages will be gathered in Heaven for a great feast and celebration.
- c. What a day it will be when all the saved of all the ages will rejoice with the Lord Jesus Christ and thank Him for all He has done for us.

- d.* But again, if you don't accept God's invitation to the Supper of Salvation then you are excluded from the Supper of Commemoration and you will not be at the Supper of Jubilation.

V. CONCLUSION-

- a.* Anyone who rejects Jesus Christ will never be saved, they cannot rightly participate in the Lord's Supper and they will never experience the celebration God has prepared in heaven for those that love His Son.
- b.* The gospel of Jesus Christ is God's invitation to all three suppers. What excuses are you using that will ultimately exclude you from the greatest love and opportunity you will ever be given?