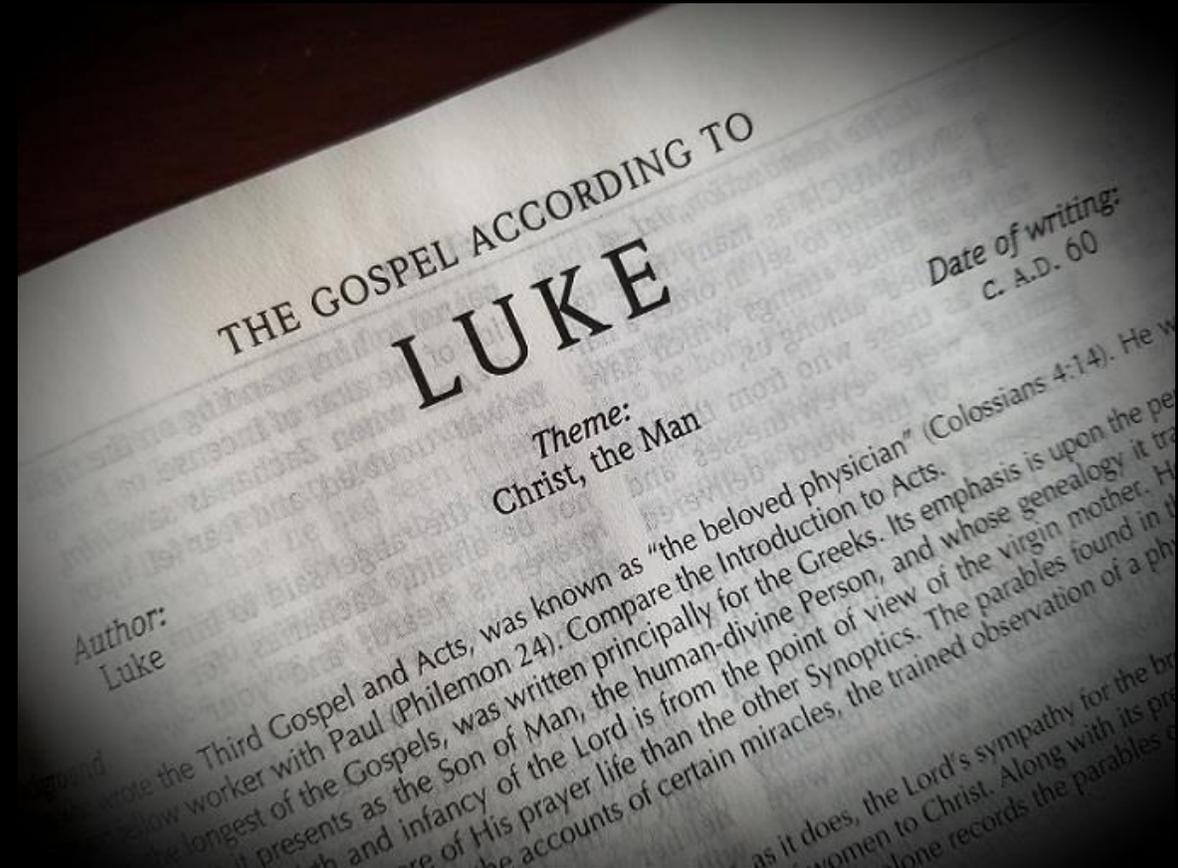


Verse by Verse

Luke 14



Previously in Luke

Previously in Luke

- Luke began by showing us the ministry of Jesus in and around Galilee.
- Jesus then turned toward Jerusalem.
- His ministry has continued with teaching, healing, and miracles like calming the sea and raising the dead.
- Much of his teaching has been in parables and that will continue today.

Luke 14 Introduction

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- In this chapter, Jesus will show us that the invitation into God's kingdom is open to everyone.
- Our entrance into it is all of grace.
- On the other hand discipleship is costly.
- We need to follow Jesus to the cross.

Luke 14 Key Verse

Luke 14 Key Verse

- Luke 14:27 (ESV)

Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14 Outline

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1. Healing on the Sabbath 14:1-6
2. Parable of the Wedding Feast 14:7-11
3. Parable of the Great Banquet 14:12-24
4. The Cost of Discipleship 14:25-33
5. Salt Without Saltiness 14:34-35

1. Healing on the Sabbath 14:1-6

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- **14:1** This is a **Sabbath** and Jesus is dining at a **Pharisee's house**.
- **14:2** A man is there with **dropsy** (*edema* or swelling).
- **14:3-6** Jesus takes the initiative in healing him, and puts the lawyers and Pharisees on the spot.

1. Healing on the Sabbath 14:1-6

- Exodus 15:26 (ESV)

“If you will diligently listen to the voice of the LORD your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, your healer.”

1. Healing on the Sabbath 14:1-6

- Jesus came to heal.
- During times like these of severe and spreading sickness, we should:
- Keep praying for all the doctors, nurses, health care workers and researchers out there.
- Keep praying specifically for the sick.

2. Parable of the Wedding Feast 14:7-11

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- 14:11 Jesus explains the parable immediately.
- “For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

2. Parable of the Wedding Feast 14:7-11

- Jesus said in the last chapter, **Luke 13:29-30**,
29 And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. **30** And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.

2. Parable of the Wedding Feast 14:7-11

- We also see it later in the New Testament,
- James 4:6, 10 (ESV)

⁶ But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble” ...

¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2. Parable of the Wedding Feast 14:7-11

- We also see it later in the New Testament,
- 1 Peter 5:5-6 (ESV)

⁵ ... Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you.

3. Parable of the Great Banquet 14:12-24

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- Here Jesus starts with a lesson: Favor the poor and marginalized over the rich when you hold a feast.
- He then illustrates it with a parable that explains how this compares with a larger spiritual truth.
- In the story, God is the one holding the banquet.

3. Parable of the Great Banquet 14:12-24

- The invited guests should consider themselves privileged for being invited.
- Instead they give silly excuses – in other words, they reject the call into God's kingdom.
- In the end, the banquet hall is filled with all kinds of people, but not with those who were first invited.

3. Parable of the Great Banquet 14:12-24

Each character type teaches something.

(1) From the graciousness and severity of the master we learn that God generously and consistently invites all kinds of people into his kingdom but that a day will come when the invitation is rescinded and it is too late to respond.

– Craig Blomberg, Denver Seminary



3. Parable of the Great Banquet 14:12-24

Each character type teaches something.

(2) From the excuses of the first group of guests stems the principle that all excuses for rejecting God's invitation are exceedingly lame.

– Craig Blomberg, Denver Seminary



3. Parable of the Great Banquet 14:12-24

Each character type teaches something.

(3) From the helplessness of the second group of guests follows the teaching that God's generosity is not thwarted by the rejection of the "establishment," because he extends his invitation even to the dispossessed of this world. ¹

– Craig Blomberg, Denver Seminary



3. Parable of the Great Banquet 14:12-24

- I'm reminded of the wide open invitation we find at the end of the Bible, in Revelation 22:17 (ESV)

The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

4. The Cost of Discipleship 14:25-33

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- 14:25-26 First some clarification of the use of love and hate in this passage.
- Those words, love and hate, were used in that culture at that time as comparative terms.
- They were not necessarily opposites.
- Matthew makes this clearer than Luke.

4. The Cost of Discipleship 14:25-33

- Matthew 10:37-38 (ESV)

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.

4. The Cost of Discipleship 14:25-33

- Jesus demands our highest level of affection for himself – with no exceptions.
- We might think we can serve two masters, but Jesus knows better.
- We will prefer one over the other in the end, and that one we prefer **has to be Jesus**.

4. The Cost of Discipleship 14:25-33



I have resolved not to count anything I own of any value, save as it relates to the advance of the Kingdom of God.²

*– David Livingstone (1813 – 1873),
Scottish physician, missionary
and explorer*

4. The Cost of Discipleship

14:25-33

If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then there is no sacrifice too great for me to make for Him. ²

*– C. T. Studd (1860 – 1931),
Cambridge Cricketer, founder of
Worldwide Evangelisation Crusade*



4. The Cost of Discipleship 14:25-33

- Luke 14:27 (ESV)

Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

5. Salt Without Saltiness 14:34-35

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- 14:34 The words “lost its taste” are not specifically related to flavor.

They are translated elsewhere as “become foolish” or “cause to become nonsense.”

- Paul uses a related word in Romans 1:22,
Claiming to be wise, they became fools.

5. Salt Without Saltiness 14:34-35

- Salt can have a few different effects.
 1. It is a preservative, keeping meat or other products from decay.
 2. It adds flavor, making bland food taste better.
 3. It makes you thirsty.

5. Salt Without Saltiness 14:34-35

- We Christians should do all of this in the society in which God places us.
 1. We prevent decay by our presence.
 2. We personally add flavor to a gospel message that people might otherwise find uninteresting.
 3. We should make people thirsty for Christ.

5. Salt Without Saltiness 14:34-35

- If we, Christ's disciples, fail to live up to our calling, there is no one else in the world left to do this.
- In a sense, we're no good for the soil or for the manure pile. (Not a flattering picture!)
- Shabby devotion to Christ makes a Christian useless.

Luke 14 What We Just Read

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4. Discipleship is costly and Christ demands our highest level of affection.

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1. Jesus came to heal and there is no better time than this to ask his help.
2. God asks us to humble ourselves before him.
3. The kingdom of God is for anyone willing to accept the invitation.
4. Discipleship is costly and Christ demand our highest level of affection.
5. Shabby devotion to Christ makes a Christian useless.

Luke 14 A Prayer

Luke 14 A Prayer

- Dear Heavenly Father,
- We begin by humbling ourselves before you and accepting the invitation that you give to any and all who are willing to come to you.
- We need your grace for our salvation and beyond – to live this Christian life from day to day.

Luke 14 A Prayer

- Further, we know that discipleship is costly, but we also remember that any price we might have to pay will be worth it in the end.
- We bring no merit of our own to this commitment. Help us to serve you well and serve you faithfully – to take up our cross, remembering that our lives are not our own but that we belong to you.

Luke 14 A Prayer

- Finally, we also remember you as our healer – the one who has all power over all sickness and disease.
- For those who are sick and for those who are working on their behalf, we pray for your grace and extra amounts of help from you at this time.
- In Jesus' name,
- Amen.

Luke 14 References

1. Blomberg, Craig L. *Interpreting the Parables* (p. 307). InterVarsity Press. Kindle Edition.
2. Quoted in Stedman, Ray C., 1997. *Talking with My Father*, Discovery House Publishers, 149.