

WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?

Luke 14:15-24

**Will you be at God's table and in fellowship with Him
and other believers in 2014?**

I. THE SUPPER (16-17)

A. PREPARATION

B. INVITATION

C. SUMMONS

- The dinner has not started but the guests are being seated.

II. THE EXCUSES (18-20)

- The dinner is ready but the guests are not!

A. AN INVESTMENT URGENCY (18)

- Note the warnings of Mark 8:34-37 and Luke 12:15-21

B. AN OCCUPATIONAL NECESSITY (19)

- Recognize a problem with the business of busyness
- See Luke 10:38-42

C. A FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY (20)

- Consider the warning in Luke 9:59-62

D. A BIBLICAL REMINDER

- God never gives us principles or obligations that conflict with or cancel each other.

III. THE REALITY (18a)

A. REFUSAL

- They did not come when they were called

B. CREATIVE REFUSAL

- They pretend they are unable when in fact they are unwilling.

C. POLITE REFUSAL

- "Please consider me excused" – A polite refusal is still a refusal

D. COLLECTIVE REFUSAL

- A conspiracy of non-cooperation

IV. **THE ANGER** (21)

A. GOD IS OFFENDED

- The responses indicate how little they value God

B. MEN ARE INDIFFERENT

- They make promises and do not perform accordingly

C. GOD IS DISPLACED

- If it comes before God ... then it is between you and God ... and it becomes your “god.”

V. **SOME CONSIDERATIONS**

A. How are you responding to God’s invitation? (18a)

B. What sort of ridiculous or flimsy excuses have you given God this week?

C. Have you insulted God’s intelligence?

D. Even though you may excuse yourself, does God?

E. At what point might your heart become hardened?

- See Proverbs 29:1

CONCLUSION:

Do you ever wonder why your soul shrivels and you are spiritually starved?

- It’s because you don’t come to the table!

What’s your excuse?

- Answer: A refusal to heed God’s call

When will you quit refusing Him?

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens The door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me." - Revelation 3:20

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