



The Story of the Honorable Guest

(Sermon by Ray Reynolds on 9/6/09 - PM)

Text: Luke 14:7-11

<u>Introduction</u>: One of the greatest challenges that Jesus faced in His ministry was over the law of Sabbath keeping. Prior to the story we will consider today, we can read about Jesus performing a miracle on the Sabbath. The Pharisees were critical of the timing of this miracle. Jesus notices the hypocrisy of the Pharisees and engages their critique by turning the debate around with a story. Let's consider it together

Discussion:

I. The Wedding Feast

- → The Dinner Guests (Luke 14:15-24)
- → The Wedding Feast (Matthew 22:1-14)
- → In II Timothy 2:21 Paul encourages us to be "vessels of honor."
- → Romans 12:10 reminds us to show "honor" to one another.

II. The Highest Place

- → In John 2:1-10, Jesus chose a wedding feast to be the place of his first miracle.
- → I John 2:16 says that the "pride of life" is one of the three greatest sins.
- → Solomon gives some words of wisdom (Proverbs 16:18 and Proverbs 29:23).
- → The Lord hates pride (**Proverbs 8:13**).
- → Pride defiles man (Mark 7:21-23) and it is of the world (I John 2:15-17).
- → Pride will condemn many on Judgment Day (Hebrews 9:27).

III. The Lowest Place

- → There is a wonderful maxim in the story (**Luke 14:11**).
- → Jesus used this many times in His teachings (Matthew 23:6-12, Luke 18:14).
- → It is found in the Old Testament (Psalm 18:27, Proverbs 18:12, 29:23).
- → His brother learned it and spoke it often (James 4:6).
- → Peter also used it in His teaching (I Peter 5:5).
- → The Lord blesses the humble (Psalm 25:9, Proverbs 3:34).
- → Proverbs 11:2 reveals that humility is a mark of wisdom.
- → Arrogance goes before destruction (**Proverbs 18:12, 22:4**).

<u>Conclusion</u>: There is only one group of people who can enter the kingdom. They are the humble and servant minded people who humble themselves in the presence of God. In our Christian living we must find contentment, thankfulness, and humility. We need total commitment despite our position. Will you let go of your ego?