Parables Kingdom Conversation Luke 14:1-14

Aaron Barnett

When Jesus taught He wanted to:

- Lead people to Himself and to the Father (John 14:6)
- He wants people to see spiritual things and not earthly things. (John 3 and 4 the story of Nicodemus and the woman at the well)
- He wants people's hearts. He wants your heart (Luke 6:46; Matt 12:34; Prov. 4:23)

The kingdom of God is not about us and all we do. The kingdom of God is about us and our standing before God.

1. You NEED to revisit the motives of what you say and do -Luke 14:1-6

What were the Pharisee's motives?

Matt 23:1-7: Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger. They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues ⁷ and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbiby others.

What are your motives for all you say and do?

2. You NEED to see yourself rightly before others and before God -Luke 14:7-11

"The root of humility is right *knowledge*. The man who really knows himself and his own heart, - who knows God and his infinite majesty and holiness, - who knows Christ, and the price at which he was redeemed, - that man will never be a proud man. He will count himself, like Jacob, unworthy of the least of all God's mercies. He will say of himself, like Job, 'I am vile.' He will cry, like Paul, 'I am chief of sinners' (Gen. 32:10; Job 40:4; 1 Tim. 1:15). He will think anything good enough for him. In lowliness of mind he will esteem everyone else to be better than himself (Phil. 2:3). Ignorance - nothing but sheer ignorance of self, of God, and of Christ, is the real secret of pride. From that miserable self-ignorance may we daily pray to be delivered! He is the wise man who knows himself; - and he who knows himself, will find nothing within to make him proud." -Expository

Thoughts on Luke, J. C. Ryle, pg. 114-115.

The Kingdom of God is about the throne of your heart. More specifically and more importantly it is about who is on the throne of your heart.

Who is on the throne of your heart, Christ or self?

3. You NEED to stay focused on eternal reward and not earthly reward -Luke 14:12-14

Are you focused on what you can get here and now or in the life to come? The things of earth WILL pass away and be gone.

- -2 Cor. 4:16-5:10 Our home is not on this earth. We are heaven bound! Moreover we will see reward for that which we've done, whither good or evil.
- -Colossians 3:1-4 Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. Glory is coming!