

## **SEATS OF HONOR**

Luke recorded five of the seven Sabbath miracles perform by Jesus as prophetic signs to Israel of their Messianic Savior (Isa.61:1-3; Lk.7:22-23; 14:1-6, **13**) (Luke Chapters 4; 6; 13; 14; John 5; and 9).

We will divide our lesson text into three parts of study.

- (Lk.14:1-6) The Story
- (Lk.14:7-11) The Parable
- (Lk.14:12-14) The Explanation of the doctrinal point (Lk.14:11)

### **1. We will begin by examining the Story by the following four homiletic points (Lk.14:1-6).**

- Pharisee dinner party (Lk.14:1) Sabbath (Lk.7:6-8) Prominent leader (Sanhedrin)
- Pretense of interest in Jesus (Lk.14:2) Sabotage (Lk.20:19-21) “They watched Him closely.”
- Planted person with dropsy (Lk.14:2) Sickness (Num.5:19-22)
- Profaning Mosaic Law (Lk.14:3-6) Speechless (2 questions) (Gen.50:20; Isa.5:20)

### **2. Now we will examine the parable of a wedding dinner by the following four homiletic points (Lk.14:7-11) [Addressed to those invited].**

- **Assigning seats** (Lk.14:7) Places of honor [Last Supper]
  - (Lk.22:24) “He noticed how they had been picking out the places of honor at the table.”
- **Assumption** (Lk.14:8-9) Preeminence (Prov.25:6-7; Lk.11:43)
- **Assessment** (Lk.14:10) Prestige for host as well as guests (Matt.23:6, 12)
- **Assimilate** (Lk.14:11) Parable doctrinal point
  - (Lk.18:9-14) “For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” (Prov.29:23; Matt.23:12; James 4:10)
- False humility Seats of honor
- Genuine humility Seat unnoticed (Prov.22:4; 18:12) [humility goes before honor]
- Enforced humility Removed

**“True honor is not what one claims for himself; but what is conferred on him by others.”**

### **3. Finally, we will examine Jesus’ explanation of the parable doctrinal point by the following three homiletic points (Lk.14:12-14) [Addressed to the host after the parable].**

- **Reciprocation** (Lk.14:12) Looking for repayment of favor.
  - “He went on to say to the one who had invited Him.” (**Note four groups**) (Matt.6:1)

- **Recluses** (Lk.14:13) Doesn't look for repayment or favor (Luke 4:16-21)
  - (Isa.61:1-2a) "Set free those who are oppressed" (thrauo) (perf.p.ptc.aplm) [break into pieces, to shatter – dropsy] (**Note difference of these four groups**)

**Do you see the importance of genuine humility is no respecter of persons?**

- **Reward** (Lk.14:14) Looking for Blessed (makarios) favor in eternity
  - (Lk.14:15) "When one of those who were reclining at the table with Him heard this, he said to Him, '**Blessed** is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God.'"
  - This led to a spin-off parable (Lk.14:16-24)

A sign of spiritual growth maturity is seeking the honor that comes from God.

(Prov.29:23) "A man's pride will bring him low, but a humble spirit will obtain honor."

This Story Parable points out the danger of the mental attitude sin (MAS) of **respecter of persons** (Lev.19:15-18; Matt.22:34-40; Lk.**10:29-37**) [Good Samaritan] (James 2:1-9) [Royal law] (Rom.13:10; Acts 10:34-36).

The Church Age Believer (CAB) can please God, but not earn His respect (Heb.11:6).

God's respect is found in the genuine humility of His Beloved Son who suffered the cross for every member of the human race (Phil. 2:8-11).

**Pharisees asked Jesus' disciples**, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?"

**Jesus answered**, "It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have NOT come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." (Lk.5:30-32)

**NOTE:** Genuine humility is extended by grace ministry to all equally without respecter of persons or expectation of benefit in return.