

“Refusal of an Invitation”

Introduction:

How does this passage connect to the previous one?

I. The Setting of the Parable: (vs.15-16a)

- A. What are “*these things*” that the one guest responds to? (15)
- B. What point was the man making with his pronouncement? (15)
- C. To whom is the parable addressed? (16)

II. The Parable Explained: (vs.16b-24)

- A. What was the nature of the invitations given? (16-17)
- B. How are we to understand the excuses given by the guests? (18-20)
- C. Why was the host angry? (vs.21)
- D. Where have we seen this guest list before? (21)
- E. Who made the statement recorded in verse 24?

III. The Parable Interpreted: (vs.16b-24)

- A. Who and what is represented in the imagery of the parable?
- B. What did the excuses of the fictitious guests represent?
- C. What spiritual truth does this parable convey?

Conclusion:

What is the tragic and ironic truth revealed in this passage?

What relevance does this have for us, and for those we know and love?