

Hearing the Invitation



**WHY NOW'S THE TIME TO GET UP OUT OF
YOUR SEAT**

the Invitation



What I must do to be saved



- **Hear the word (Romans 10:17)**
- **Believe (Hebrews 11:6)**
- **Repent (Luke 13:3)**
- **Confess (Romans 10:9-10)**
- **Be Baptized (Acts 2:38)**
- **Be Faithful (Revelation 2:10)**

* 23 All things Are Ready

Accepting the Invitation: Believing that God Is



Joh 9:35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and finding him, he said, Do you believe on the Son of God? 36 He answered and said, And who is he, Lord, that I may believe on him? 37 Jesus said unto him, you have both seen him, and he it is that speaks with you. 38 And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him. 39 And Jesus said, For judgment came I into this world, that they that see not may see; and that they that see may become blind.

The Parable of the Great Supper

Luke 14:15-24



15 And, hearing these words, one of those who were at table with him said to him, Happy is the man who will be a guest in the kingdom of God. 16 And he said to them, A certain man gave a great feast, and sent word of it to a number of people. 17 And when the time had come, he sent his servants to say to them, Come, for all things are now ready. 18 And they all gave reasons why they were not able to come. The first said to him, I have got a new field, and it is necessary for me to go and see it: I am full of regret that I am unable to come. 19 And another said, I have got some cattle, and I am going to make a test of them: I am full of regret that I am unable to come. 20 And another said, I have been married, and so I am not able to come.

21 And the servant came back and gave his master an account of these things. Then the master of the house was angry and said to the servant, Go out quickly into the streets of the town and get the poor, the blind, and those who are broken in body. 22 And the servant said, Lord, your orders have been done, and still there is room. 23 And the lord said to the servant, Go out into the roads and the fields, and make them come in, so that my house may be full. 24 For I say to you that not one of those who were requested to come will have a taste of my feast.

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Accepting the Invitation: Qualities Needed



- **Humility**
- Believing that God is
- Honest heart (Luke 8:15)
- Godly sorrow (2 Cor 7:10)
- Spirit of repentance

1Pe 5:5 Likewise, younger people, submit yourselves to your elder. Yes, all of you gird yourselves with humility, to serve one another: for God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. 6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; 7 casting all your anxiety upon him, because he cares for you.

Accepting the Invitation: A good and honest heart



Luk 8:12 Those by the side of the road are those who have given hearing; then the Evil One comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not have faith and get salvation. 13 And those on the rock are those who with joy give hearing to the word; but having no root, they have faith for a time, and when the test comes they give up. 14:And those which went among thorns are those who have given hearing, and go on their way, but they are overcome by cares and wealth and the pleasures of life, and they give no fruit. **15 And those in the good earth are those who, having given ear to the word, keep it with a good and true heart, and in quiet strength give fruit.**

Accepting the Invitation: Godly Sorrow



2Co 7:8 For though I made you sorry with my epistle, I do not regret it: though I did regret it (*for I see that that epistle made you sorry, though but for a season*), 9 I now rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye were made sorry unto repentance; for ye were made sorry after a godly sort, that ye might suffer loss by us in nothing.

10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance unto salvation, a repentance which bringeth no regret: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. 11 For behold, this selfsame thing, that ye were made sorry after a godly sort, what earnest care it wrought in you, yea what clearing of yourselves, yea what indignation, yea what fear, yea what longing, yea what zeal, yea what avenging! In everything ye approved yourselves to be pure in the matter. 12 So although I wrote unto you, *I wrote not for his cause that did the wrong, nor for his cause that suffered the wrong, but that your earnest care for us might be made manifest unto you in the sight of God.*

Accepting the Invitation: Repentance



There are three Greek words used in the New Testament to denote repentance. (1.) The verb, *metamelomai*, is used of a change of mind, such as to produce regret or even remorse on account of sin, but not necessarily a change of heart. This word is used with reference to the repentance of Judas (Matt. 27:3). (2.) *Metanoeo*, meaning to change one's mind and purpose, as the result of after knowledge. This verb, with (3) the cognate noun, *metanoia*, is used of true repentance, a change of mind and purpose and life, to which remission of sin is promised. **[Biblical] repentance consists of (1) a true sense of one's own guilt and sinfulness; (2) an [appreciation] of God's mercy in Christ; (3) an actual hatred of sin (Ps. 119:128; Job 42:5, 6; 2 Cor. 7:10) and turning from it to God; and (4) a persistent [seeking] after a holy life in a walking with God in the way of his commandments.** The true penitent ...[understands] himself to be just what God has always seen him to be and declares him to be. But repentance comprehends not only such a sense of sin, but also [feels] mercy, without which there can be no true repentance.

-Eaton's 1897 Bible Dictionary

“Houston...We have a problem.”



Accepting the Invitation: Saying, “Lord, I have a Sin problem.”



2Ki 5:1 Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master, and honorable, because by him the LORD had given deliverance unto Syria: he was also a mighty man in valor, *but he was a leper.* 2 And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife. 3 And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord *were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would cure him of his leprosy.* 4 And one went in, and told his lord, saying, *Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.* 5 And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand *pieces of gold, and ten changes of raiment.* 6 And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying, Now when this letter is come unto thee, behold, I have *presently sent Naaman my servant to you, that you may cure him of his leprosy.*

Accepting the Invitation: Saying, “Lord, I have a Sin problem.”



2Ki 5:7. And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he tore his clothes, and said, *Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man does send to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Therefore consider, I pray you, and see how he seeks a quarrel against me.* 8 And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying, *Wherefore hast you ripped your clothes? let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.* 9 So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall return to you, and you shalt be clean. **11 But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and cure my leprosy.**

Why now's the time to get up out of your seat

- Be like Naaman became
- You don't know how much time you have left
- Baptism puts everyone to the same level
- God demands it of us



Coal Miner

Why many won't do it



- “I’ll have lots of time to decide later”
- “I don’t really believe in God all that much”
- “I’m already a good person”
- “I’m not ready yet to live a holy life.”
- “You’ll never know because I am not telling.”

What would it take?

