



Jesus is never caught off guard, are you?

***Luke 14:1** One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched. **2** There in front of him was a man suffering from abnormal swelling of his body. **3** Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in the law, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath or not?" **4** But they remained silent. So, taking hold of the man, he healed him and sent him on his way.

False Concerns

1. **V:1** They didn't care about fellowship with Jesus, they were only carefully watching him, to see if they could trap him.
2. **V:2-4** They didn't care about the man who had dropsy. They already learned from the woman who had been bent over for 18 years, that Jesus didn't view the sabbath the way they did.
3. The Pharisees tried to use religion to control people. Is it lawful to do good?

***Luke 14:7** When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: **8** "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. **9** If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. **10** But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. **11** For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Why do Christians crave status? Is it a desire signaling something possibly is going wrong?

1. **V:7** Jesus notices the guest and how they desired a place of honor.
2. **Isaiah 14:12-14** Self-exaltation is the original sin.

*Luke 14:15 When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God."

16 Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. 17 At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'

18 "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'

19 "Another said, 'I have just bought five yokes of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'

20 "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'

How secure are you about going to heaven?

1. V:14 Every person with any knowledge of heaven believe they will go to heaven.
2. V:16-20 The parable of the Banquet reveals who makes heaven a priority in their life.
 - A. Did he buy a field without seeing it?
 - B. Did someone buy five oxen without inspecting them?
 - C. Does being married keep you from God's invitations?

*Luke 14:25 Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: 26 "If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. 27 And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

28 "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won't you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? 29 For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, 30 saying, 'This person began to build and wasn't able to finish.'

31 "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won't he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand?

32 If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. 33 In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples.

Are you secure in the cost you've paid to be a disciple?

1. This is not a salvation question. It's a growth question.
2. The price in time will cost you everything.