

The Best Banquet

By: Pauline Hylton

“Then the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!’ And he added, ‘These are the true words of God’” (Revelation 19:9, NIV)

We’ve all enjoyed memorable meals—birthday celebrations, holiday dinners, or a spontaneous night of laughter over takeout. But no matter how exquisite, every earthly feast ends. One day, however, there will be a banquet unlike any other: a wedding supper hosted by Jesus Himself. Will you be there?



I love a good meal.

For my 50th birthday, my children threw a small dinner party for me with our best friends. We had place cards and my favorite entrée—coconut shrimp. Dessert was Crème Brûlée, a taste of heaven.

Later, when my grown children came to visit us in North Carolina, we cooked together for fun. Creating dishes, sharing stories, and lingering over meals became a treasured form of fellowship.

Then came our sisters’ trip to Spain, France, and Italy. The food? Superb. The fellowship? Rich. One night in Barcelona, we were ushered to an upstairs room where three chefs prepared a private feast. It was unforgettable.

And yet—I know there’s a better banquet ahead. The best banquet. One that no chef, no Michelin star, no wine pairing, no fine linen can touch. The Wedding Supper of the Lamb.

Our host will be King Jesus. He will provide the food, the clothes, the conversation, the joy. I like to imagine place cards at the table—mine nestled beside a believer from the Middle Ages. Maybe we’ll swap stories about how Jesus met us, carried us, changed us. Maybe we’ll laugh with relief over how faithful and patient our Savior was.

But here’s the thing: you have to accept the invitation.

In Luke 14:15–24, Jesus tells a parable about a man who threw a lavish feast. He invited the town’s elite, but they all had excuses: too busy, too distracted, too comfortable. So he opened the invitation to

the outcasts—the poor, the broken, the forgotten. And they came because they knew they were hungry.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:3, “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” The banquet isn’t for those who think they’ve earned a seat. It’s for those who know they need grace.

My place card is there—not because I deserve it, but because Christ paid for it. Written in His blood, my name is secure. So is yours, if you’ve accepted His invitation.

I look forward to seeing many of you there—even if I don’t know your faces now. We’ll have eternity to learn one another’s stories.

If you haven’t said yes to Jesus yet, the invitation is still open.

Reflect:

- Do you know for sure that you’ll be at the banquet?
- Whom do you need to invite?

Dig a little deeper:

- Consider the importance of the banquet in these passages:
 - Luke 14:15–24
 - Matthew 22:1–14
 - Isaiah 25:6–9
 - John 14:1–3
 - Song of Songs 2:4
- Write a note (or send a text) to someone you love who may not yet have accepted the invitation. Start the conversation with kindness and courage.

Prayer

Lord, thank you for your faithful love to us. Thank you for preparing a place for us and a banquet that would make a five star restaurant seem unpalatable.

REFERENCES

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