

Do you want me to do that?

If you like, I can also create a more concise devotional version in English, keeping all the theological points but easier for daily reading and sharing.

Luke 14:15 (ESV)

“When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, ‘Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!’”

In biblical times, food served at celebrations carried great significance, and the highest honor was given to bread that was carefully baked—much like the “cake” of modern celebrations. Today, we can compare it to a cake, which often symbolizes the centerpiece of a feast. A party without the cake feels incomplete. Among all the foods at a celebration, the cake is usually placed

prominently and is eaten by those who are specially honored—not by every guest. Others eat the ordinary dishes prepared for general consumption.

Thus, the cake reveals status at a feast. Those given first access are recognized as the primary guests, the ones given special honor. Others follow in order, receiving attention according to their place.

Returning to the passage in Luke 14, we must ask: what prompted the person to exclaim, “*Blessed is the one who will eat bread in the kingdom of God*”? Reading the surrounding verses, it becomes clear that Jesus spoke these words after observing the system of honor at a banquet he attended.

Luke 14:7-11 (ESV) explains:

“When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ‘When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in

the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'"

From this, we understand that the feast Jesus referred to involved prominent guests: chief Pharisees, government officials, wealthy friends, and neighbors with status. Even Jesus himself was invited to this banquet. The celebration was likely extravagant, perhaps in a grand hall decorated elaborately. Some guests jockeyed for the seats of honor—the front seats, where they would be first to eat the “cake” (bread of highest significance).

Jesus observed this and highlighted the principle of humility and divine reward. When a person sees earthly honor as the measure of esteem, it reminds them of the greater honor in God’s kingdom.

Luke 14:12-14 (ESV) continues:

“He said also to the one who had invited him, ‘When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your

brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'"

In this context, the person who exclaimed "*Blessed is the one who will eat bread in the kingdom of God*" was envisioning the ultimate honor—being the first to partake of the heavenly feast, seated closest to Christ himself, amidst Abraham, the prophets, and the apostles, sharing joy and fellowship with the Lord.

Matthew 8:11 (ESV) affirms this heavenly banquet:

"I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven."

Yet, those who reject God's invitation will face judgment:

"But the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The heavenly banquet—the marriage supper of the Lamb—is near. Those taken to Christ will hear His voice, leaving the earthly realm to enter the glory of heaven. Their bodies will be transformed, dressed in radiant white garments, and seated at the table prepared for them by Christ.

Matthew 26:29 (ESV) speaks of this eternal joy:

“But I tell you, I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”

Meanwhile, the unprepared will mourn, trapped in tribulation or facing regret. Signs of the coming rapture are evident, and the question arises: *Will you be among those taken?* Are you certain that if you die today, you will be part of the first resurrection? If not, this is a call to repentance and turning to God while there is still time.

Revelation 19:6-9 (ESV) paints the ultimate scene of celebration:

“Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great

multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready'; it was granted her to be clothed with fine linen, bright and pure—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.'"

May the Lord bless you. Please share this message with others, and continue to visit our website www.wingulamashahidi.org for more teachings.

Maranatha.

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OF GOD

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