

THE GOSPEL INVITATION IS BY GRACE; THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE GOSPEL IS BY FAITH

(Luke 14:25-35 ESV)

THE GOSPEL INVITATION BY GRACE (Luke 14:16-24 ESV)

But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to **those who had been invited**, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’

- But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’
- And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’
- And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the servant came and reported these things to his master.

Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘**Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.**’ And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’

And the master said to the servant, ‘**Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.** For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

THE GOSPEL ACCEPTANCE BY FAITH (LUKE 14:25-35 ESV)

Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and **said to them**,

- **Negative Faith Warning #1: Hate Family**

“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, **he cannot be my disciple.**”

- **Negative Faith Warning #2: Embrace Suffering**

Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me **cannot be my disciple.**

- **Negative Faith Warning #3: Count the Defensive Cost**

For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and **was not able to finish.**’

- **Negative Faith Warning #4: Count the Offensive Cost**

Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And **if not**, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace.

- **Faith Warning #5: Renounce Possessions**

So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has **cannot be my disciple.**

- **Faith Warning #6: Consequences of Not Heeding the Faith Warnings**

“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. **It is thrown away.**”

He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Jesus’ Words Parallel Moses’ Words
(Deuteronomy 29-30 ESV)

These are the **words of the covenant** that the LORD commanded Moses to make with the people of Israel in the land of Moab, besides the **covenant** that he had made with them at Horeb.

INVITATION OF GOD’S GRACE: And Moses summoned all Israel and said to them: “You have **seen** all that the LORD did before your **eyes** in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, the great trials that your **eyes saw**, the signs, and those great wonders. But to this day the LORD has not given you a **heart** to understand or **eyes to see or ears to hear**.

POWER OF GOD’S GRACE: I have led you forty years in the wilderness. Your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandals have not worn off your feet. You have not eaten bread, and you have not drunk wine or strong drink, that you may know that I am the LORD your God. And when you came to this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon and Og the king of Bashan came out against us to battle, but we defeated them. We took their land and gave it for an inheritance to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of the Manassites. **Therefore keep the words of this covenant and do them, that you may prosper in all that you do.**

GOD’S COVENANT OF GRACE: “You are standing today, all of you, before the LORD your God: the heads of your tribes, your elders, and your officers, all the men of Israel, your little ones, your wives, and the sojourner who is in your camp, from the one who chops your wood to the one who draws your water, so that you may enter into the **sworn covenant** of the LORD your God, which the LORD your God is making with you today, that he may establish you today as his people, and that he may be your God, as he promised you, and as he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. It is not with you alone that I am making this **sworn covenant**, but with whoever is standing here with us today before the LORD our God, and with whoever is not here with us today.

WARNING OF LOSING SALTINESS: “You know how we lived in the land of Egypt, and how we came through the midst of the nations through which you passed. And you have seen their detestable things, their idols of wood and stone, of silver and gold, which were among them. **Beware** lest there be among you a man or woman or clan or tribe whose heart is turning away today from the LORD our God to go and serve the gods of those nations. **Beware** lest there be among you a root bearing poisonous and bitter fruit, one who, when he hears the words of this sworn covenant, blesses himself in his heart, saying, ‘I shall be safe, though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart.’ This will lead to the sweeping away of moist and dry alike. The LORD will not be willing to forgive him, but rather the anger of the LORD and his jealousy will smoke against that man, and the curses written in this book will settle upon him, and the LORD will blot out his name from under heaven. And the LORD will single him out from all the tribes of Israel for calamity, in accordance with all the curses of the covenant written in this Book of the Law.

And the next generation, your children who rise up after you, and the foreigner who comes from a far land, will say, when they see the afflictions of that land and the sicknesses with which the LORD has made it sick—the whole land burned out with brimstone and salt, nothing sown and nothing growing, where no plant can sprout, an overthrow like that of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, which the LORD overthrew in his anger and wrath—all the nations will say, ‘Why has the LORD done thus to this land? What caused the heat of this great anger?’ Then people will say, ‘It is because they abandoned the covenant of the LORD, the God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them out of the land of Egypt, and went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods whom they had not known and whom he

had not allotted to them. Therefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, bringing upon it all the curses written in this book, and the LORD uprooted them from their land in anger and fury and great wrath, and cast them into another land, as they are this day.’

PROMISE OF REDEMPTION: “The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law. (Deuteronomy 29 ESV)

“And when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God has driven you, and return to the LORD your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you. If your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there the LORD your God will gather you, and from there he will take you. And the LORD your God will bring you into the land that your fathers possessed, that you may possess it.

And he will make you more prosperous and numerous than your fathers. And the LORD your God will **circumcise your heart** and the heart of your offspring, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live. And the LORD your God will put all these curses on your foes and enemies who persecuted you. And you shall again obey the voice of the LORD and keep all his commandments that I command you today. The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all the work of your hand, in the **fruit** of your womb and in the **fruit** of your cattle and in the **fruit** of your ground. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, as he took delight in your fathers, when you obey the voice of the LORD your God, to keep his commandments and his statutes that are written in this Book of the Law, when you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

HEAR THE WORD OF GOD: “For this commandment that I command you today is not too hard for you, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that you should say, ‘Who will ascend to heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, ‘Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?’ **But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.**

COUNT THE COST: “See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it.

But if your heart turns away, and **you will not hear**, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse.

Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”
(Deuteronomy 30 ESV)