

Ruined by Religion

Luke 14:1-24

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Religious rituals can take us far from God. V.1-24

- 1) When religion equals **rule keeping** we become **pitiless** (14:1-6). Notice:
 - a) **Manipulation** – “there was a certain man before Him who had dropsy.” (v.2).
 - b) **Entrapment** – “they watched Him closely...” (v.1).
 - c) **Incorrigibility** – “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?” (v.3).
 - d) **Hypocrisy** – Which one of you won’t save an animal that falls in a pit on the Sabbath? (v.5).
- 2) When religion becomes **ritualistic** we become **proud**. (7-14).
 - a) **Participants** beware of pride: v.8-11 (Those invited)
 - i) Pride seeks **power, position and prominence** in front of men.
 - ii) Humility will be **honored**.
 - iii) Even the **“elect”** can be full of pride.
 - b) **Hosts** beware of Pride v.12-14 (Those inviting)
 - i) Proud people consider the **status** of the people with whom they associate.
 - ii) Proud people only look for relationships that can **reciprocate**. (v.14)
- 3) When religion becomes a **routine** we become **presumptuous** (v.15-24)
 - a) It is presumptuous to think you need no **repentance**.
 - b) It is presumptuous to think matters **on earth** are more important than the matter **of eternity**.
 - c) It is presumptuous to assume you have **plenty of time**.

Religion won’t save you.

Religious **rituals** do not lead to repentance rather to pride

Religious **routine** can lull you to sleep spiritually and give you false hope.

We are invited to the kingdom but we must **respond** to the invitation.