



“All Things are Ready;
Come to the Feast!”

Luke 14:12-24

A photograph of a dining table set for a meal. In the center is a large roasted turkey on a platter. To the left is a bowl of potatoes. In the foreground, there are two bowls, one containing a dark sauce or jam. The table is decorated with vases of flowers, including red berries and yellow flowers. The background shows a window with a view of a building.

Luke 14:12-14

- “Then He also said to him who invited Him, When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. 13 But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. 14 And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

The Invitation Is Extended

- Luke 14:15-17 - “Now when one of those who sat at the table with Him heard these things, he said to Him, Blessed is he who shall eat bread in the kingdom of God! 16 Then He said to him, A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, 17 and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, Come, for all things are now ready.”

The Invitation Is Extended

- The invitation is simple – “Come”
 - Isa. 1:18 - “Come now, and let us reason together, Says the LORD, Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.”
 - Matt. 11:28 - “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”
 - Rev. 22:17 - “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come! And let him who hears say, Come! And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.”

The Invitation Is Extended

- The invitation is solid – “All things are now ready”
 - 1Peter 1:2 - “Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.”
 - 2Thes. 2:13-14 - “But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, 14 to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

A photograph of a dining table set for a meal. In the center is a large roasted turkey on a platter. Surrounding it are several bowls containing side dishes like mashed potatoes and cranberry sauce. There are also plates, glasses, and decorative centerpieces with flowers and branches. The lighting is warm and the overall atmosphere is cozy and festive.

The Invitation Is Extended

- The invitation is serious – “Now”
 - 2Cor. 6:2 - “...Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”
 - Prov. 27:1 - “Do not boast about tomorrow, For you do not know what a day may bring forth.”
 - Prov. 29:1 - “He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck, Will suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.”
 - Isa. 55:6 - “Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near.”

The Invitation Is Evaded

- Luke 14:18-20 - “But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' 19 And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' 20 Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’”

The Invitation Is Evaded

- Excuses examined
 - They sound reasonable; they are not lazy, irresponsible, or obsessed; most good people can identify with their excuses
 - They are good excuses; they address important matters in the quality and security of one's life
 - They are time tested excuses; they have always been used and continue to be used by sinner and Christian alike

The Invitation Is Evaded

- Excuses exposed – While they appear reasonable on the surface; in truth, they are absolutely trivial relative to the critical matter of salvation
 - Jesus is not saying these excuses are unimportant; He is saying they are less important than the salvation of the soul
 - Matt. 16:26 - “For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

The Invitation Is Evaded

- Psalm 49:7-9 - “None of them can by any means redeem his brother, Nor give to God a ransom for him- 8 For the redemption of their souls is costly, And it shall cease forever- 9 That he should continue to live eternally, And not see the Pit.”

The Invitation Is Expanded

- The feast will go on without you, even if you refuse to attend
 - “I show them; I just won’t go to services!” Who’s punishing who?
 - Individual boycotting is probably the most ineffective, tragically amusing, and self-destructive forms of protest human beings engage

The Invitation Is Expanded

- The command was issued, and the feast continued.
 - Rom. 1:16 - “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”
 - John 1:11-12 - “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name”

The Invitation Is Expanded

- The direction of the call – All kinds of people; people no one else want; people no one else would invite. That is what the gospel of grace does
 - John 6:37 - “All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.”
 - 1Cor. 1:26 - “For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.”

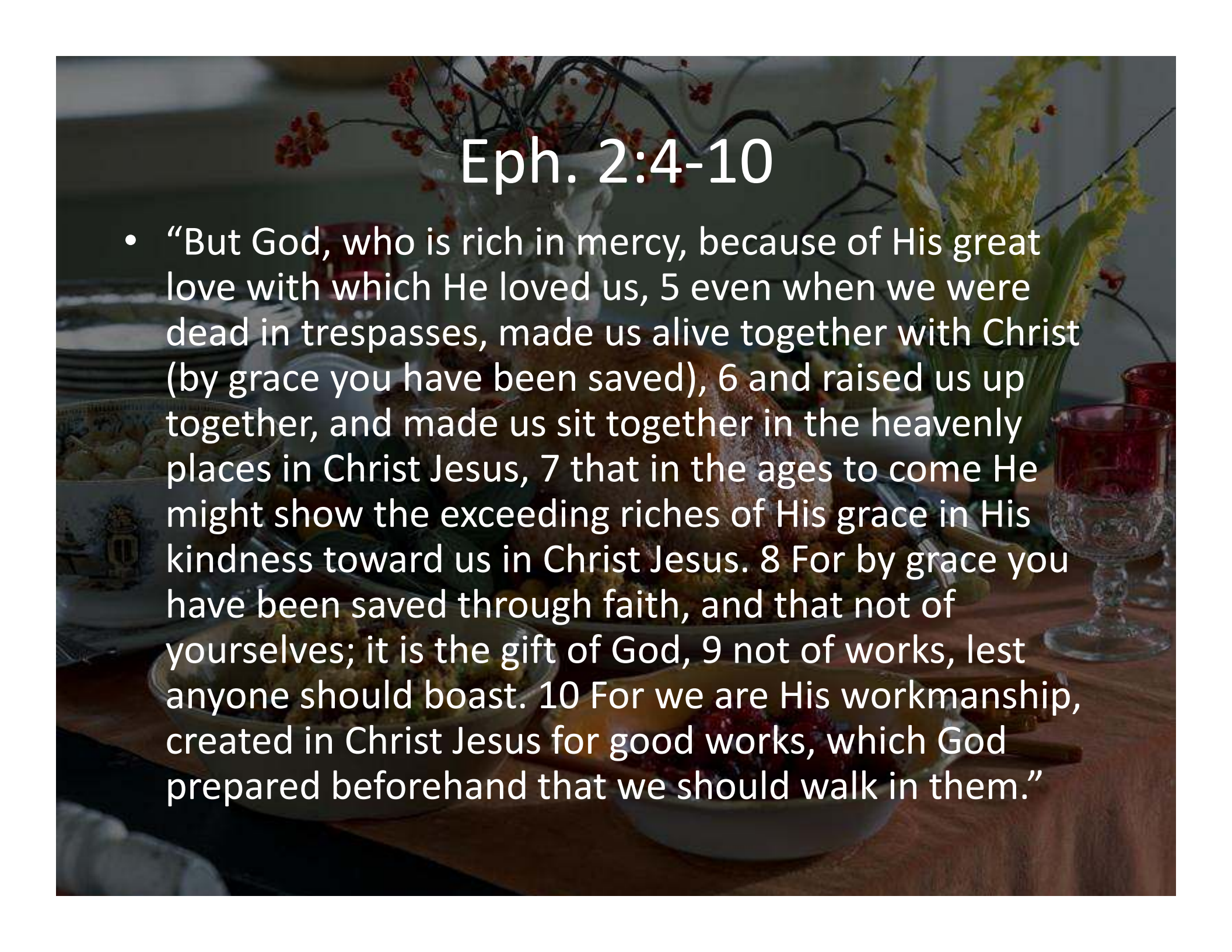
The Invitation Is Expanded

- The desire of the call – A full house, that there will not be an empty seat at His table.
 - Luke 14:23 - “that my house may be filled”
 - Luke 14:25 - “Now great multitudes went with Him.”
 - Acts 13:46 - “Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, “It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.”

The Invitation Is Expanded

- The demand of this call – “Compel them” - “to persuade, to drive”
 - Eph. 2:4-10
 - 2Tim. 1:8-11
 - 2Cor. 5:14-21



A dimly lit dining table with a roasted turkey, bowls of food, and vases of flowers. The scene is set for a meal, with a large turkey as the centerpiece. There are several bowls containing different types of food, and vases with flowers in the background. The lighting is soft and warm, creating a cozy atmosphere.

Eph. 2:4-10

- “But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

A dimly lit dining table with a centerpiece of a turkey, bowls of food, and vases of flowers. The text is overlaid on the image.

2Tim. 1:8-11

- “Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, 9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, 10 but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, 11 to which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.”

2Cor. 5:14-21

- “For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. 16 Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”