

# Luke 14:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, as he went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched him.

## Analysis

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Luke introduces another Sabbath controversy: 'And it came to pass, as he went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched him.' Jesus accepted an invitation to dine with 'one of the chief Pharisees,' demonstrating His willingness to engage even hostile opponents. The meal occurred 'on the sabbath day,' setting up another confrontation over Sabbath observance. The phrase 'they watched him' (καὶ αὐτοὶ ἦσαν παρατηρούμενοι αὐτόν, kai autoi ēsan paratēroumenoi auton) indicates hostile surveillance—they were looking for grounds to accuse Him. This dinner becomes the setting for teaching about humility (vv. 7-11), generosity (vv. 12-14), and kingdom invitation (vv. 15-24).

## Historical Context

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Pharisees commonly hosted Sabbath meals after synagogue worship, inviting teachers and discussing Torah. That a 'chief Pharisee' (ἀρχόντων τῶν Φαρισαίων, archontōn tōn Pharisaion) invited Jesus suggests either genuine curiosity or calculated entrapment. The presence of a man with dropsy (v. 2) may have been arranged to test whether Jesus would heal on the Sabbath. Jesus consistently used meal settings for significant teaching (Luke 5:29-32, 7:36-50, 19:1-10), demonstrating that discipleship involves all of life, including social interactions.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. Why did Jesus accept invitations from hostile Pharisees, and what does this teach about engaging opponents?
2. How does the Pharisees' hostile watching contrast with the disciples' faithful following?
3. What does Jesus' willingness to dine with enemies teach about Christian witness and bridge-building?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ	ἐγένετο	ἐν	τῷ	ἐλθεῖν	αὐτόν	εἰς	οἶκόν	τινος
<b>And</b>	<b>it came to pass</b>	<b>as</b>	G3588	<b>went</b>	<b>he</b>	<b>into</b>	<b>the house</b>	<b>of one</b>
G2532	G1096	G1722		G2064	G846	G1519	G3624	G5100
τῶν	ἀρχόντων	τῶν	Φαρισαίων	σαββάτῳ	φαγεῖν	ἄρτον		
G3588	<b>of the chief</b>	G3588	<b>Pharisees</b>	<b>on the sabbath</b>	<b>to eat</b>	<b>bread</b>		
	G758		G5330	G4521	G5315	G740		
καὶ	αὐτόν	ἦσαν	παρατηρούμενοι	αὐτόν				
<b>And</b>	<b>he</b>	<b>they watched</b>	G3906	<b>he</b>				
G2532	G846	G2258		G846				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Mark 3:2** (Parallel theme): And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him.

**Psalms 41:6** (Parallel theme): And if he come to see me, he speaketh vanity: his heart gathereth iniquity to itself; when he goeth abroad, he telleth it.

**Psalms 62:4** (Parallel theme): They only consult to cast him down from his excellency: they delight in lies: they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah.

**Luke 20:20** (Parallel theme): And they watched him, and sent forth spies, which should feign themselves just men, that they might take hold of his words, that so they might deliver him unto the power and authority of the governor.

**Luke 11:37** (Resurrection): And as he spake, a certain Pharisee besought him to dine with him: and he went in, and sat down to meat.

**Psalms 37:32** (Parallel theme): The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him.

**Proverbs 23:7** (Parallel theme): For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

**Luke 6:7** (Resurrection): And the scribes and Pharisees watched him, whether he would heal on the sabbath day; that they might find an accusation against him.