

Luke 5:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Levi made him a great feast in his own house: and there was a great company of publicans and of others that sat down with them.

Analysis

Levi made great feast in his own house and there was great company publicans others sat down. Levi made epeiēsen prepared. Great feast dochēn megalēn large banquet. Own house oikia personal residence. Great company ochlos polys large crowd. Publicans telōnōn tax collectors despised class. Others allōn likely sinners social outcasts. Sat down reclined at table intimate fellowship. Levi celebration of conversion. Used home resources to introduce friends to Jesus. Evangelistic feast. Jesus willing to fellowship with outcasts. Pharisees criticized (v. 30). Reformed theology affirms God grace reaches outcasts sinners. Church should welcome not exclude those society rejects.

Historical Context

Middle Eastern hospitality banquets extended affairs. Levi invitation to tax collector friends significant. They were his social network. New believer brings old friends to Jesus. Evangelism begins with relational connections. Jesus criticized for eating with sinners. Table fellowship signified acceptance. Pharisees separated Jesus incarnated grace. Early church included all classes slaves free Jews Greeks. Modern church sometimes more concerned respectability than reaching outcasts. Need to recover Jesus pattern.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What does Levi using his home and resources for evangelistic feast teach about discipleship?
2. How does Jesus willingness to fellowship with tax collectors sinners challenge church attitudes toward outcasts?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἐποίησεν	δοχὴν	μεγάλην	ὁ	Λευὶς	αὐτῶν	ἐν	τῇ
And	made	feast	a great	G3588	Levi	him	in	G3588
G2532	G4160	G1403	G3173		G3018	G846	G1722	
οἰκίαν	αὐτῶν	καὶ	ἦσαν	ὄχλος	τελωνῶν	πολὺς	καὶ	
house	him	And	there was	company	of publicans	a great	And	
G3614	G846	G2532	G2258	G3793	G5057	G4183	G2532	
ἄλλων	οἷ	ἦσαν	μετ'	αὐτῶν	κατακείμενοι			
of others	that	there was	with	him	sat down			
G243	G3739	G2258	G3326	G846	G2621			

Additional Cross-References

Luke 15:1 (Parallel theme): Then drew near unto him all the publicans and sinners for to hear him.