

the good of being justified? (Rom. 5, 1, 2.) Is it worth while to be at peace with God and a friend and follower of Jesus Christ? Which is worth more, an invitation to go to college or an invitation to come to Christ?

Now, one of you tell this parable, while the rest see that he gets it all in. What a gay scene such a feast must have been! [Show a picture, or describe.] How did the Master of the house feel when he heard what the men said? Do you think those were their real reasons? Is it honest to offer a false excuse? Why did the men make such a strange choice? [Discuss briefly.] I believe it was simply because they thought it would be too much trouble to leave their work and dress up to go to the feast. It was easier to go right on with what they were doing. Who got their places? Did they come?

Now, you are that man in verse 15. You think it would be very blessed indeed to be invited to such a feast—to eat bread in the kingdom of God. You would never offer such foolish excuses—O, no. How many of you are members of the Church? Have you accepted Christ's invitation to give him all your heart? I sometimes catch myself offering just such flimsy excuses as these men did; do you? If we refuse, the offer goes to the heathen; and they will accept. But there is room for them and us too.

OPTIONAL HYMNS,

No. 1.

Break Thou the bread of life.
Blest are the hungry.
So near to the kingdom.
Called to the feast.
Gather them in.

No. 2.

Christ is knocking.
The Saviour calls.
Come, sinners, to the Gospel feast.
Ho! every one.
In from the highways.

Blackboard.



THE INVITATION.

COME,
THE EARTHLY | THE GOSPEL
FEAST IS READY.

THE EXCUSES.

THEN. | NOW.

Bought Land.	Study.
Try Oxen.	Work.
Married a Wife.	Pleasure.

"YET THERE IS ROOM."

WHY NOT ACCEPT?

"Come; for all things are now ready."

References.

FREEMAN. Vers. 16, 17: The double invitation, 691.

A. D. 30.]

LESSON III. THE LOST FOUND.

[April 19.]

GOLDEN TEXT. There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. Luke 15, 10.

Authorized Version.

Luke 15, 11-24. [Commit to memory verses 18-20.]

[Read Luke 15, 1-32.]
11 And he said, A certain man had two sons:
12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.
13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a

Revised Version.

11 And he said, A certain man had two sons:
12 and the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of *thy* substance that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country; and there he wasted

No. 10

No. 104

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