

## THE GOSPEL FEAST.

THE thought of a feast is a common one in scripture. Thus it is said, "A certain man made a great supper and bade many." Luke xiv, 16; see also Matt. xxii, 2-4; Isa. lv, 1-2; Pro. ix, 1-5. Now what is the reason of this? It is because the idea furnishes an apt illustration of the grace of God. The man who made the great supper was not bound to make it. There was no compulsion put upon him; he was not under law in so doing; it was an act of grace only. It was the same with the number he invited. He might invite one or one hundred, for in this matter he was the sole judge. It was the same with God. It was He who spread the feast of grace. The world was open to His view and He saw that it was composed of sinners, everyone of whom was a rebel and therefore entitled to no favor. Whatever He does for them, therefore, in the way of blessing, must needs be of grace. Some men ask why an Almighty God does not save every body. It would be more to the purpose if they were to ask why He saves any body. Rowland Hill was fond of repeating the following triplet:

And when I shall die  
Receive me I cry,  
For Jesus hath loved me, I cannot tell why.

I agree with him. I believe "the Son of God loved me and gave Himself for me," but if you ask me why, apart from grace, He did it I am dumb, for I have nothing to say excepting this—God is love.