

# LUKE 14 vs 1

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This is the **fifth** Sabbath healing that Dr. Luke records; possibly the same day... and same hour as that previous confrontation.

**<sup>1</sup> And it happened, that He went to the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread** / now days we'd say, Jesus was invited to do lunch... fine dining;

**on the Sabbath day** / no church potluck... with that cheap church punch! WOW!

And Luke writes...

**and they watched Him** / oh?! Matthew Henry says, the Pharisee who invited Him did it with a design to pick some quarrel with Him; to inform against Him; not to be informed by Him. They were hoping to accuse and bring a charge against Him; but was Jesus intimidated? No way! He knows our hearts; He went to the house.

**<sup>2</sup> And, behold, there was a certain man before Him who had the dropsy** / and the word suggests: suddenly appearing before Him; who had **edema** -- an abnormal swelling and accumulation of fluid in the body -- so this poor soul was being used; and these friends of the Pharisee, they watched Jesus.

**<sup>3</sup> And Jesus answered, speaking to the lawyers and Pharisees** / sizing up the situation and responding to their glares and silent stares; **saying,**

**Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath day?** / hey experts, is it contained in the Mosaic law or not?; Jesus is going to directly expose their hypocrisy.

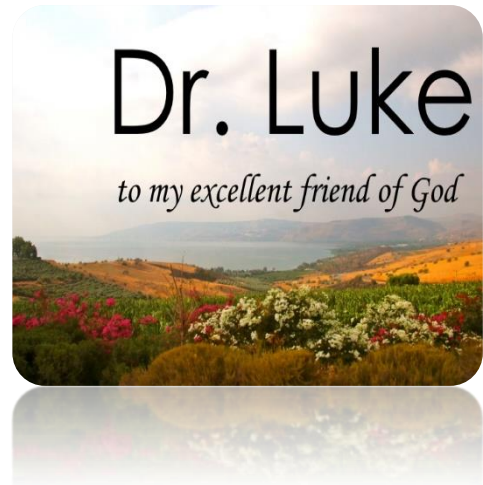
**<sup>4</sup> And they held their peace** / they just sat there silent; they answered neither Yes or No! They would not say it was lawful... or they could not accuse Him; and they could not say it was... unlawful because it was so plain and self-evident.

**and He took and healed him and let him go** / literally, Jesus embraced this man... and immediately, he was healed; and for his safety, Jesus dismissed him! when Jesus works, He moves fast. Doesn't He? And undoubtedly this healed man left the house.

And just an aside -- where did that disease go? It didn't just vanish into thin air. Matthew writes quoting Isaiah, **He Himself... took our infirmities, and carried away our sicknesses** -- **Isaiah 53; Matthew 8**. It was as if He vacuumed them up into His own body; and we don't even need to know how. Jesus is like us... but definitely a little different than us, wouldn't you say?!

**<sup>5</sup> And He answered them, saying** / for a second time, He continue to size up the situation; even though they are not saying anything; **so He answers their thoughts**... because nothing is hid from Him.

**who of you who has an ass... or an ox that falls into a ditch, and will not immediately pull it out on the Sabbath day?** / cuz Jesus observed it was not so much out of compassion for the poor critter,



but that they do it more for a concern of their own interest. For it was the saving of their own precious ox... and their own precious ass... that, in a moment, they will dispense with the law of the Sabbath – Matthew Henry. And things haven't changed much, have they? The Sabbath day was only a pretense; those religious hypocrites... they were angry at the marvelous deeds Christ was WORKING... even on the Sabbath day!

And Luke writes...

<sup>6</sup> **And again they could **not** answer Him about these things** / for a second time they just sat there, totally inert, like bumps on a log. But the lunch continues, and Jesus the good Teacher, is going to enlighten:

<sup>7</sup> **And He put forth a parable to those who were invited** / next Jesus tells a familiar earthy story that contained a heavenly truth; to those who were invited,

**when He noticed how they were choosing the chief seats** / the chief pillows and cushions and places. Was there an undignified scramble going on? And had He noticed... how this bunch of lawyers and Pharisees had pressed toward the head table... in their silent struggle for precedence and self-importance?

Surveys indicate: in the United States, 84% of the people think they are... **very important**; not respectably important, but **VERY IMPORTANT!** That's a helluva lot of VIP's driving our freeways and walking our streets. Notice them! We might have to move aside for them!

And Jesus put forth a parable, saying

<sup>8</sup> **When you are invited by anyone to a wedding, do **not** take the highest seats; lest someone more honorable than you is invited by the wedding host;**

<sup>9</sup> **and he who invited you comes and tells you, Give place to that one; and then with injured ego, you have to take the lower seat.**

<sup>10</sup> **But when you are invited, go recline in the lowest seat; that when he who invited you comes, he may say to you, Friend, move up higher:**

**then you will have honor / and respect... in the presence of all who sit at dinner with you.**

<sup>11</sup> **For whoever exalts himself will be abased;**

**and he who humbles himself will be exalted.**

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