

Why doesn't everybody go to heaven? As Jesus illustrates in the story He tells in today's Gospel lesson, people feel they have better, more important and urgent things to do with their lives than spend their time with the heavenly things to which our Lord invites them. Such is the way of sin-to follow one's heart.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF  
 CONCORD  
 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY  
 THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION  
 ARTICLE XIX: OF THE CAUSE OF SIN

Of the Cause of Sin they teach that, although God does create and preserve nature, yet the cause of sin is the will of the wicked, that is, of the devil and ungodly men; which will, unaided of God, turns itself from God, as Christ says John 8:44: When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own.

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**Lord grant you faith in His grace alone  
 for your salvation unto eternal life. Amen**

## Parable of the Great Feast

from a painting by  
 Cicily Barker, 1934



Then [Jesus] said to him, "A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.'



And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So that servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house, being angry, said to his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in here the poor and the maimed and the lame and the blind.'



And the servant said, 'Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.' Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.' "

**Luke 14:16-24**