

~HOSPITALITY (1502)

[Greek - phi-lo-xe-ni'a]

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• The cordial and generous reception and entertainment of guests or strangers. Hospitality is translated from the Greek *phi-lo-xe-ni'a*, literally meaning love of, fondness for, or kindness to strangers.

• In Ancient Times

• In patriarchal times, though Egyptians and others practiced **hospitality**, the Semites were most notable for this quality. Care for the traveler was viewed as an integral part of living, and great was the courtesy extended the visitor, whether a stranger, a friend, a relative, or an invited guest.

• From the Bible accounts we learn that **hospitality** was customarily extended to a traveler. He was **greeted by a kiss**, particularly if a relative.

• Now it came about that as soon as Laban heard the report about Jacob the son of his sister, he went running to meet him. Then he **embraced him and kissed him** and brought him on into his house. And he began to relate to Laban all these things. (**Genesis 29:13**)

• After that Laban said to him; You are indeed my bone and my flesh. So he dwelt with him a full month. (**Genesis 29:14**)

- **His feet were washed by a member of the household, usually a servant.**
- **Let a little water be taken, please, and you must have your feet washed. Then recline under the tree. ([Genesis 18:4](#))**
- **And his animals were fed and cared for.**
- **Well, it came about that before he had finished speaking, why, here coming out was Rebekah, who had been born to Bethuel the son of Milcah the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, and her water jar was upon her shoulder. ([Genesis 24:15](#))**
- **Now the young woman was very attractive in appearance, a virgin, and no man had had sexual intercourse with her, and she made her way down to the fountain and began to fill her water jar and then came up. ([Genesis 24:16](#))**
- **At once the servant ran to meet her and said; Give me, please, a little sip of water from your jar. ([Genesis 24:17](#))**
- **In turn she said; Drink, my lord. With that she quickly lowered her jar upon her hand and gave him a drink. ([Genesis 24:18](#))**
- **When she was finished giving him a drink, then she said; For your camels too I shall draw water until they are done drinking. ([Genesis 24:19](#))**
- **So she quickly emptied her jar into the drinking trough and ran yet again and again to the well to draw water, and kept drawing for all his camels. ([Genesis 24:20](#))**
- **All the while the man was gazing at her in wonder, keeping silent to know whether Yehowah had made his trip successful or not. ([Genesis 24:21](#))**
- **Consequently it came about that, when the camels had finished drinking, then the man took a gold nose ring of a half shekel in weight and two bracelets for her hands, ten shekels of gold was their weight. ([Genesis 24:22](#))**
- **And he went on to say; Whose daughter are you? Tell me, please. Is there any room at the house of your father for us to spend the night? ([Genesis 24:23](#))**

- **At that she said to him; I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor. (Genesis 24:24)**
- **And she said further to him; There is both straw and much fodder with us, also a place to spend the night. (Genesis 24:25)**
- **Now Rebekah had a brother and his name was Laban. So Laban went running to the man who was outside at the fountain. (Genesis 24:29)**
- **And it came about that on seeing the nose ring and the bracelets on the hands of his sister and on hearing the words of Rebekah his sister, saying; This is the way the man spoke to me, then he came to the man and there he was, standing by the camels at the fountain. (Genesis 24:30)**
- **At once he said; Come, you blessed one of Yehowah. Why do you keep standing out here, when I myself have made the house ready and room for the camels? (Genesis 24:31)**
- **With that the man came on into the house, and he went unharnessing the camels and giving straw and fodder to the camels and water to wash his feet and the feet of the men who were with him. (Genesis 24:32)**
- **Then something to eat was set before him, but he said; I shall not eat until I have spoken about my matters. Hence he said; Speak! (Genesis 24:33)**
- **He was often asked to stay for the night and sometimes even for several days.**
- **After that they ate and drank, he and the men who were with him, and they spent the night there and got up in the morning. Then he said; Send me off to my master. (Genesis 24:54)**
- **And he proceeded to say; Please, now, my lords, turn aside, please, into the house of your servant and stay overnight and have your feet washed. Then you must get up early and travel on your way. To this they said; No, but in the public square is where we shall stay overnight. (Genesis 19:2)**
- **But he was very insistent with them, so that they turned aside to**

him and came into his house. Then he made a feast for them, and he baked unfermented cakes, and they went to eating. **(Genesis 19:3)**

- **The visitor was regarded as under the householder's protection during his stay.**
- **Finally Lot went out to them to the entrance, but he shut the door behind him. (Genesis 19:6)**
- **Then he said; Please, my brothers, do not act badly. (Genesis 19:7)**
- **Please, here I have two daughters who have never had intercourse with a man. Please, let me bring them out to you. Then do to them as is good in your eyes. Only to these men do not do a thing, because that is why they have come under the shadow of my roof. (Genesis 19:8)**
- **While they were making their hearts feel good, look! The men of the city, mere good-for-nothing men, surrounded the house, shoving one another against the door, and they kept saying to the old man, the owner of the house; Bring out the man that came into your house, that we may have intercourse with him. (Judges 19:22)**
- **At that the owner of the house went on out to them and said to them; No, my brothers, do not do anything wrong, please, since this man has come into my house. Do not commit this disgraceful folly. (Judges 19:23)**
- **Here are my virgin daughter and his concubine. Let me bring them out, please, and you rape them and do to them what is good in your eyes. But to this man you must not do this disgraceful, foolish thing. (Judges 19:24)**
- **On departure, he might be escorted partway on his journey.**
- **Later the men got up from there and looked down toward Sodom, and Abraham was walking with them to escort them. (Genesis 18:16)**
- **The importance with which the extending of **hospitality** was viewed is seen in Reuel's remarks when his daughters spoke of the**

Egyptian traveler, actually Moses, who had helped them in watering their flock. Reuel exclaimed; But where is he? Why is it that you have left the man behind? Call him, that he may eat bread.

- **Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters, and as usual they came and drew water and filled the gutters to water their fathers flock. (Exodus 2:16)**
- **And as usual the shepherds came and drove them away. At this Moses got up and helped the women out and watered their flock. (Exodus 2:17)**
- **So when they came home to Reuel their father he exclaimed; How is it you have come home so quickly today? (Exodus 2:18)**
- **To this they said; A certain Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds and, besides, he actually drew water for us that he might water the flock. (Exodus 2:19)**
- **Then he said to his daughters; But where is he? Why is it that you have left the man behind? Call him, that he may eat bread. (Exodus 2:20)**

· In The Cities

- **It is evident from the Bible accounts that, particularly in the cities, non-Israelites might not always be hospitable toward Israelites.**
- **While they were close by Jebus, as the daylight had gone down considerably, the attendant now said to his master; O come, now, and let us turn aside to this city of the Jebusites and stay in it overnight. (Judges 19:11)**
- **But his master said to him; Let us not turn aside to a city of foreigners who are no part of the sons of Israel, and we have to pass on as far as Gibeah. (Judges 19:12)**
- **Also, in the cities hospitality was probably not offered as readily as in more isolated areas. However, a Levite man with his attendant and his concubine sat down after sunset in the public square of Gibeah, seemingly expecting to be offered a place to stay overnight. This indicates that hospitality, even in the cities, was quite common.**
- **Consequently they turned aside there to go in to stay overnight**

in Gibeah. And they proceeded to go in and sit down in the public square of the city, and there was nobody taking them on into the house to stay overnight. (**Judges 19:15**)

- **In this instance, the Levite man remarked that he had provisions for his party as well as for his animals.**
- **And there are both straw and fodder for our he-asses, and there are both bread and wine for me and your slave girl and for the attendant with your servant. There is no lack of a single thing. (**Judges 19:19**)**
- **He required shelter only. But the bad attitude of the Benjamites inhabiting this city made it inhospitable, as was verified by what later occurred.**
- **Then the woman came as it was turning to morning, and fell down at the entrance of the man's house where her master was, until daylight. (**Judges 19:26**)**
- **Later her master rose up in the morning and opened the doors of the house and went out to get on his way, and, look! The woman, his concubine, fallen at the entrance of the house with her hands upon the threshold! (**Judges 19:27**)**
- **So he said to her; Rise up, and let us go. But there was no one answering. At that the man took her upon the ass and rose up and went to his place. (**Judges 19:28**)**

.. To Servants Of God

- **While **hospitality** was generally practiced, the fine **hospitality** depicted in the Bible accounts was undoubtedly because, in most instances, the ones showing **hospitality** were servants of Yehowah. Especially noticeable were the **hospitality** and respect shown to those who were prophets or special servants of God.**
- **Abraham stood by the three angels for whom he provided a meal, while they ate. This seems to have been a token of respect for the men whom Abraham recognized to be angelic representatives of Yehowah.**
- **Then he said; Yehowah, if, now, I have found favor in your eyes, please do not pass by your servant. (**Genesis 18:3**)**

- Next Abraham ran to the herd and proceeded to get a tender and good young bull and to give it to the attendant, and he went hurrying to get it ready. (**Genesis 18:7**)
- He then took butter and milk and the young bull that he had got ready and set it before them. Then he himself kept standing by them under the tree as they were eating. (**Genesis 18:8**)
- And just as Abraham ran to prepare for his guests, Manoah showed eagerness in preparing food for the man whom he thought to be a man of God, but who was actually an angel.
- Manoah now said to Yehowah's angel; Let us, please, detain you and fix up a kid of the goats before you. (**Judges 13:15**)
- But Yehowah's angel said to Manoah; If you detain me, I shall not feed myself on your bread, but if you will render up a burnt offering to Yehowah, you may offer it up. For Manoah did not know that he was Yehowah's angel. (**Judges 13:16**)
- Then Manoah said to Yehowah's angel; What is your name, that when your word comes true we shall certainly do you honor? (**Judges 13:17**)
- However, Yehowah's angel said to him; Just why should you ask about my name, when it is a wonderful one? (**Judges 13:18**)
- And Yehowah's angel did not repeat appearing to Manoah and his wife anymore. Then it was that Manoah knew that he had been Yehowah's angel. (**Judges 13:21**)
- A prominent woman of Shunem showed **hospitality** to Elisha because, as she said; Here, now, I well know that it is a holy man of God that is passing by us constantly.
- And it came about one day that Elisha went passing along to Shunem, where there was a prominent woman, and she began to constrain him to eat bread. And it came about that as often as he would pass by, he would turn aside there to eat bread. (**2 Kings 4:8**)
- At length she said to her husband; Here, now, I well know that it is a holy man of God that is passing by us constantly. (**2 Kings 4:9**)

- Please, let us make a little roof chamber on the wall and put there for him a couch and a table and a chair and a lampstand, and it must occur that whenever he comes in to us he can turn aside there. ([2 Kings 4:10](#))
- And it came about one day that as usual he came in there and turned aside to the roof chamber and lay down there. ([2 Kings 4:11](#))

•• Inhospitality Condemned

- Because the Ammonites and Moabites refused to extend **hospitality** to the nation of Israel when they were traveling toward the Promised Land, and the Moabites even hired Balaam to call down evil on them, Yehowah decreed that no Ammonite or Moabite man could be admitted to the congregation of Israel.
- No Ammonite or Moabite may come into the congregation of Yehowah. Even to the tenth generation none of theirs may come into the congregation of Yehowah to time indefinite. ([Deuteronomy 23:3](#))
- For the reason that they did not come to your aid with bread and water in the way when you were going out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia to call down evil upon you. ([Deuteronomy 23:4](#))
- In this instance it was, not a mere failure to display humanitarian **hospitality**, but a hatred of God and his people that moved the Ammonites and Moabites to inhospitality and hostility.
- Yehowah, through the prophet Isaiah, condemned the people of Israel for their lack of **hospitality**, telling them that their fasting and bowing before Him was of no value when at the same time they were letting their brothers suffer lack of food, clothing, and shelter.
- For what reason did we fast and you did not see, and did we afflict our soul and you would take no note? Indeed you people were finding delight in the very day of your fasting, when there were all your toilers that you kept driving to work. ([Isaiah 58:3](#))
- Indeed for quarreling and struggle you would fast, and for striking with the fist of wickedness. Did you not keep fasting as

in the day for making your voice to be heard in the height?
([Isaiah 58:4](#))

- Should the fast that I choose become like this, as a day for earthling man to afflict his soul? For bowing down his head just like a rush, and that he should spread out mere sackcloth and ashes as his couch? Is it this that you call a fast and a day acceptable to Yehowah? ([Isaiah 58:5](#))
- Is not this the fast that I choose? To loosen the fetters of wickedness, to release the bands of the yoke bar, and to send away the crushed ones free, and that you people should tear in two every yoke bar? ([Isaiah 58:6](#))
- Is it not the dividing of your bread out to the hungry one, and that you should bring the afflicted, homeless people into your house? That, in case you should see someone naked, you must cover him, and that you should not hide yourself from your own flesh? ([Isaiah 58:7](#))
- In the **First Century C.E.** the practice of **hospitality** continued much as it had been carried on in earlier times, although conditions had somewhat altered the extent of its practice.
- The Samaritans and Jews were not on good terms, so **hospitality** between them was often lacking.
- A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her; Give me a drink. ([John 4:7](#))
- For his disciples had gone off into the city to buy foodstuffs. ([John 4:8](#))
- Therefore the Samaritan woman said to him; How is it that you, despite being a Jew, ask me for a drink, when I am a Samaritan woman? For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. ([John 4:9](#))
- In answer the Jews said to him; Do we not rightly say; You are a Samaritan and have a demon? ([John 8:48](#))
- Also, domination by foreign nations had increased enmities, and the country roads were beset by robbers. Even some inns were run by dishonest, inhospitable men.

- **Nevertheless, among the Jews, the same amenities as in times past were generally observed toward the guest. He was welcomed with a kiss, his head was anointed or greased with oil, and his feet were washed. At banquets the guests were usually seated according to rank and honor.**
- **With that he turned to the woman and said to Simon; Do you behold this woman? I entered into your house; You gave me no water for my feet. But this woman wet my feet with her tears and wiped them off with her hair. (Luke 7:44)**
- **You gave me no kiss. But this woman, from the hour that I came in, did not leave off tenderly kissing my feet. (Luke 7:45)**
- **You did not grease my head with oil, but this woman greased my feet with perfumed oil. (Luke 7:46)**
- **He then went on to tell the invited men an illustration, as he marked how they were choosing the most prominent places for themselves, saying to them. (Luke 14:7)**
- **When you are invited by someone to a marriage feast, do not lie down in the most prominent place. Perhaps someone more distinguished than you may at the time have been invited by him. (Luke 14:8)**
- **And he that invited you and him will come and say to you; Let this man have the place. And then you will start off with shame to occupy the lowest place. (Luke 14:9)**
- **But when you are invited, go and recline in the lowest place, that when the man that has invited you comes he will say to you, Friend, go on up higher. Then you will have honor in front of all your fellow guests. (Luke 14:10)**
- **For everyone that exalts himself will be humbled and he that humbles himself will be exalted. (Luke 14:11)**

·· **Toward Jesus Disciples**

- **The Lord Jesus Christ said, when sending out the 12 and later the 70 to preach in Israel, that they would be received **hospitably** into the homes of those who appreciated the Good News they preached.**

- **These twelve Jesus sent forth, giving them these orders. Do not go off into the road of the nations, and do not enter into a Samaritan city. (Matthew 10:5)**
- **But, instead, go continually to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. (Matthew 10:6)**
- **Into whatever city or village you enter, search out who in it is deserving, and stay there until you leave. (Matthew 10:11)**
- **When you are entering into the house, greet the household. (Matthew 10:12)**
- **And if the house is deserving, let the peace you wish it come upon it, but if it is not deserving, let the peace from you return upon you. (Matthew 10:13)**
- **After these things the Lord designated seventy others and sent them forth by twos in advance of him into every city and place to which he himself was going to come. (Luke 10:1)**
- **Wherever you enter into a house say first; May this house have peace. (Luke 10:5)**
- **And if a friend of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if there is not, it will turn back to you. (Luke 10:6)**
- **So stay in that house, eating and drinking the things they provide, for the worker is worthy of his wages. Do not be transferring from house to house. (Luke 10:7)**
- **And cure the sick ones in it, and go on telling them; The kingdom of God has come near to you. (Luke 10:9)**
- **Though Jesus himself had, nowhere to lay down his head, he was entertained in homes of persons who recognized him as sent from God.**
- **But Jesus said to him; Foxes have dens and birds of heaven have roosts, but the Son of man has nowhere to lay down his head. (Matthew 8:20)**
- **Now as they were going their way he entered into a certain village. Here a certain woman named Martha received him as guest into the house. (Luke 10:38)**

- Paul took it as an accepted fact that his Christian brother Philemon would provide **hospitality** for him upon his visit after being released from prison. This was not presuming upon Philemon, for Paul knew from past association with Philemon that he would be more than anxious to provide what he could.
- Trusting in your compliance, I am writing you, knowing you will even do more than the things I say. (**Philemon 1:21**)
- But along with that, also get lodging ready for me, for I am hoping that through the prayers of you people I shall be set at liberty for you. (**Philemon 1:22**)
- The apostle John, in his letter written about **98 C.E.**, pointed out that members of the Christian congregation were under obligation to **assist** the traveling representatives sent forth, that we may become fellow workers in the truth.
- John also commended Gaius for his **hospitality**, saying that he had shown this spirit to those sent forth who were, strangers at that. That is, these were not previously personally known to Gaius but were, nevertheless, warmly treated because of the service they were rendering to the congregation.
- Beloved one, you are doing a faithful work in whatever you do for the brothers, and strangers at that. (**3 John 1:5**)
- Who have borne witness to your love before the congregation. These you will please send on their way in a manner worthy of God. (**3 John 1:6**)
- For it was in behalf of his name that they went forth, not taking anything from the people of the nations. (**3 John 1:7**)
- We, therefore, are under obligation to receive such persons hospitably, that we may become fellow workers in the truth. (**3 John 1:8**)

·· A Mark Of True Christianity

- Genuine **hospitality**, from the heart, is a mark of true Christianity. After the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, **33 C.E.**, many newly converted Christians remained in Jerusalem to learn more

about the Good News of the Kingdom before leaving for their homes in various parts of the earth.

- **Hospitality** was shown them by the Christians living in Jerusalem, who entertained them in their homes and even sold their possessions and considered all things to be held in common.
- And they continued devoting themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to sharing with one another, to taking of meals and to prayers. (**Acts of Apostles 2:42**)
- Indeed, fear began to fall upon every soul, and many portents and signs began to occur through the apostles. (**Acts of Apostles 2:43**)
- All those who became believers were together in having all things in common. (**Acts of Apostles 2:44**)
- And they went selling their possessions and properties and distributing the proceeds to all, just as anyone would have the need. (**Acts of Apostles 2:45**)
- And day after day they were in constant attendance at the temple with one accord, and they took their meals in private homes and partook of food with great rejoicing and sincerity of heart. (**Acts of Apostles 2:46**)
- An organized arrangement was later set up by the apostles for distributing food to the needy widows among them.
- Now in these days, when the disciples were increasing, a murmuring arose on the part of the Greek-speaking Jews against the Hebrew-speaking Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution. (**Acts of Apostles 6:1**)
- So the twelve called the multitude of the disciples to them and said; It is not pleasing for us to leave the word of God to distribute food to tables. (**Acts of Apostles 6:2**)
- So, brothers, search out for yourselves seven certified men from among you, full of spirit and wisdom, that we may appoint them over this necessary business. (**Acts of Apostles 6:3**)
- But we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the

word. ([Acts of Apostles 6:4](#))

- And the thing spoken was pleasing to the whole multitude, and they selected Stephen, a man full of faith and Holy Spirit, and Philip and Prochorus and Nicanor and Timon and Parmenas and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ([Acts of Apostles 6:5](#))
- And they placed them before the apostles, and, after having prayed, these laid their hands upon them. ([Acts of Apostles 6:6](#))

•• Hospitality Is A Requirement For Christians

- Although many had undergone severe persecution and some had experienced the plundering of their belongings, Paul commanded;
- **Do not forget hospitality**, for through it some, unknown to themselves, entertained angels. ([Hebrews 13:2](#))
- For you both expressed sympathy for those in prison and joyfully took the plundering of your belongings, knowing you yourselves have a better and an abiding possession. ([Hebrews 10:34](#))
- Peter showed that it should be willingly extended, saying;
- Be **hospitable** to one another without grumbling. ([1 Peter 4:9](#))
- Let each one do just as he has resolved in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ([2 Corinthians 9:7](#))
- Emphasizing their prior obligation to fellow believers, Paul wrote that fellow Christians were to,
- Really, then, as long as we have time favorable for it, let us work what is good toward all, but especially toward those related to us in the faith. ([Galatians 6:10](#))
- **Hospitality** was one of the important qualities requisite for those who would be appointed as overseers in the Christian congregations.
- The overseer should therefore be irreprehensible, a husband of one wife, moderate in habits, sound in mind, orderly, **hospitable**, qualified to teach. ([1 Timothy 3:2](#))

- For an overseer must be free from accusation as God's steward, not self-willed, not prone to wrath, not a drunken brawler, not a smiter, not greedy of dishonest gain. (**Titus 1:7**)
- But **hospitable**, a lover of goodness, sound in mind, righteous, loyal, self-controlled. (**Titus 1:8**)
- Also, Paul instructed Timothy, an overseer in Ephesus, that Christian widows put on the list for receiving material assistance from the congregation should be those who had, **entertained strangers**.
- Let a widow be put on the list who has become not less than sixty years old, a wife of one husband. (**1 Timothy 5:9**)
- Having a witness borne to her for fine works, if she reared children, if she **entertained strangers**, if she washed the feet of holy ones, if she relieved those in tribulation, if she diligently followed every good work. (**1 Timothy 5:10**)
- Evidently these women had made their homes open and available to Christian ministers or missionaries who visited or served the congregation, even though prior to this many of these visitors would naturally have been strangers to them. Lydia was such a woman. She was unusually **hospitable**, Luke reporting:
 - And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira and a worshiper of God, was listening, and Yehowah opened her heart wide to pay attention to the things being spoken by Paul. (**Acts of Apostles 16:14**)
 - Now when she and her household got baptized, she said with entreaty; If you men have judged me to be faithful to Yehowah, enter into my house and stay. And **she just made us come**. (**Acts of Apostles 16:15**)

•• A Proof Of Faith

- The disciple James points out that **hospitality** is essential as a work demonstrating ones faith. He says;
- Of what benefit is it, my brothers, if a certain one says he has faith but he does not have works? That faith cannot save him, can it? (**James 2:14**)

- If a brother or a sister is in a naked state and lacking the food sufficient for the day. (**James 2:15**)
- Yet a certain one of you says to them; Go in peace, keep warm and well fed, **but you do not give them the necessities for their body, of what benefit is it?** (**James 2:16**)
- Thus, too, faith, if it does not have works, is dead in itself. (**James 2:17**)

·· Blessings

- The Scriptures, in recommending **hospitality**, point out that great are the spiritual blessings received by the hospitable one. Paul says:
 - Do not forget **hospitality**, for through it some, unknown to themselves, entertained angels. (**Hebrews 13:2**)
 - Now the two angels arrived at Sodom by evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot caught sight of them, then he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the earth. (**Genesis 19:1**)
 - And he proceeded to say; Please, now, my lords, turn aside, please, into the house of your servant and stay overnight and have your feet washed. Then you must get up early and travel on your way. To this they said; No, but in the public square is where we shall stay overnight. (**Genesis 19:2**)
 - But he was very insistent with them, so that they turned aside to him and came into his house. Then he made a feast for them, and he baked unfermented cakes, and they went to eating. (**Genesis 19:3**)
 - Finally Lot went out to them to the entrance, but he shut the door behind him. (**Genesis 19:6**)
 - Then he said; Please, my brothers, do not act badly. (**Genesis 19:7**)
 - Later Yehowah's angel came and sat under the big tree that was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abi-ezrite, while Gideon his son was beating out wheat in the winepress so as to get it quickly out of the sight of Midian. (**Judges 6:11**)

- **Then Yehowah's angel appeared to him and said to him; Yehowah is with you, you valiant, mighty one. (Judges 6:12)**
- **At this Gideon said to him; Excuse me, my lord, but if Yehowah is with us, then why has all this come upon us, and where are all his wonderful acts that our fathers related to us, saying; Was it not out of Egypt that Yehowah brought us up? And now Yehowah has deserted us, and he gives us into the palm of Midian. (Judges 6:13)**
- **Upon that Yehowah faced him and said; Go in this power of yours, and you will certainly save Israel out of Midian's palm. Do I not send you? (Judges 6:14)**
- **Consequently Gideon realized that it was Yehowah's angel. At once Gideon said; Alas, Sovereign Lord Yehowah, for the reason that I have seen Yehowah's angel face to face! (Judges 6:22)**
- **Meanwhile there happened to be a certain man of Zorah of the family of the Danites, and his name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and had borne no child. (Judges 13:2)**
- **In time Yehowah's angel appeared to the woman and said to her; Look, now, you are barren and have borne no child. And you will certainly become pregnant and give birth to a son. (Judges 13:3)**
- **And Manoah began to entreat Yehowah and say; Excuse me, Yehowah. The man of the true God that you just sent, let him, please, come again to us and instruct us as to what we ought to do to the child that will be born. (Judges 13:8)**
- **At that Manoah got up and accompanied his wife and came to the man and said to him; Are you the man that spoke to the woman? To which he said; I am. (Judges 13:11)**
- **Manoah now said to Yehowah's angel; Let us, please, detain you and fix up a kid of the goats before you. (Judges 13:15)**
- **But Yehowah's angel said to Manoah; If you detain me, I shall not feed myself on your bread, but if you will render up a burnt offering to Yehowah, you may offer it up. For Manoah did not know that he was Yehowah's angel. (Judges 13:16)**

- **Then Manoah said to Yehowah's angel; What is your name, that when your word comes true we shall certainly do you honor? (Judges 13:17)**
- **However, Yehowah's angel said to him; Just why should you ask about my name, when it is a wonderful one? (Judges 13:18)**
- **So it came about that, as the flame ascended from off the altar heavenward, then Yehowah's angel ascended in the flame of the altar while Manoah and his wife were looking on. At once they fell upon their faces to the earth. (Judges 13:20)**
- **And Yehowah's angel did not repeat appearing to Manoah and his wife anymore. Then it was that Manoah knew that he had been Yehowah's angel. (Judges 13:21)**
- **Consequently Manoah said to his wife; We shall positively die, because it is God that we have seen. (Judges 13:22)**
- **Jesus himself stated the principle. There is more happiness in giving than there is in receiving.**
- **I have exhibited to you in all things that by thus laboring you must assist those who are weak, and must bear in mind the words of the Lord Jesus, when he himself said; There is more happiness in giving than there is in receiving. (Acts of Apostles 20:35)**
- **Out of appreciation for Jesus work, Matthew Levi spread a big reception feast for him and, in turn, was blessed by hearing Jesus answer the critical questions of the Pharisees and additionally relate one of his fine illustrations.**
- **Matthew's use of his house in this hospitable way provided the tax collectors and others with whom Matthew was acquainted an opportunity to receive a witness.**
- **Now after these things he went out and beheld a tax collector named Levi sitting at the tax office, and he said to him; Be my follower. (Luke 5:27)**
- **And leaving everything behind he rose up and went following him. (Luke 5:28)**

- **Also, Levi spread a big reception feast for him in his house, and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and others who were with them reclining at the meal. (Luke 5:29)**
- **At this the Pharisees and their scribes began murmuring to his disciples, saying; Why is it you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners? (Luke 5:30)**
- **In reply Jesus said to them; Those who are healthy do not need a physician, but those who are ailing do. (Luke 5:31)**
- **I have come to call, not righteous persons, but sinners to repentance. (Luke 5:32)**
- **They said to him; The disciples of John fast frequently and offer supplications, and so do those of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink. (Luke 5:33)**
- **Jesus said to them; You cannot make the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? (Luke 5:34)**
- **Yet days will come when the bridegroom will indeed be taken away from them, then they will fast in those days. (Luke 5:35)**
- **Further, he went on to give an illustration to them; No one cuts a patch from a new outer garment and sews it onto an old outer garment, but if he does, then both the new patch tears away and the patch from the new garment does not match the old. (Luke 5:36)**
- **Moreover, no one puts new wine into old wineskins, but if he does, then the new wine will burst the wineskins, and it will be spilled out and the wineskins will be ruined. (Luke 5:37)**
- **But new wine must be put into new wineskins. (Luke 5:38)**
- **No one that has drunk old wine wants new, for he says; The old is nice. (Luke 5:39)**
- **After Zacchaeus had shown **hospitality** to Jesus because of his faith, he was immeasurably blessed by hearing Jesus say;**
- **Now when Jesus got to the place, he looked up and said to him;**

- Zacchaeus, hurry and get down, for today I must stay in your house. (Luke 19:5)
- With that he hurried and got down and with rejoicing he received him as guest. (Luke 19:6)
 - But when they saw it, they all fell to muttering, saying; With a man that is a sinner he went in to lodge. (Luke 19:7)
 - But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord; Look! The half of my belongings, Lord, I am giving to the poor, and whatever I extorted from anyone by false accusation I am restoring fourfold. (Luke 19:8)
 - At this Jesus said to him; This day salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham. (Luke 19:9)
 - For the Son of man came to seek and to save what was lost. (Luke 19:10)
 - In a prophecy concerning the time of his return in Kingdom glory, Jesus said that the people would be separated, just as sheep are separated from goats by a shepherd.
 - This would be done on the basis of the treatment they would accord his brothers, even though they did not see Jesus with their physical eyes. Those showing **hospitality** and kindness to Christ's brothers would be doing it because they recognized them to be brothers of Christ and sons of God.
 - When the Son of man arrives in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit down on his glorious throne. (Matthew 25:31)
 - And all the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. (Matthew 25:32)
 - And he will put the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on his left. (Matthew 25:33)
 - Then the king will say to those on his right; Come, you who have been blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the founding of the world. (Matthew 25:34)

- **For I became hungry and you gave me something to eat. I got thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you received me hospitably. (Matthew 25:35)**
- **Naked, and you clothed me. I fell sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you came to me. (Matthew 25:36)**
- **Then the righteous ones will answer him with the words; Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty, and give you something to drink? (Matthew 25:37)**
- **When did we see you a stranger and receive you hospitably, or naked, and clothe you? (Matthew 25:38)**
- **When did we see you sick or in prison and go to you? (Matthew 25:39)**
- **And in reply the king will say to them; Truly I say to you; To the extent that you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me. (Matthew 25:40)**
- **Then he will say, in turn, to those on his left; Be on your way from me, you who have been cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels. (Matthew 25:41)**
- **For I became hungry, but you gave me nothing to eat, and I got thirsty, but you gave me nothing to drink. (Matthew 25:42)**
- **I was a stranger, but you did not receive me hospitably. Naked, but you did not clothe me. Sick and in prison, but you did not look after me. (Matthew 25:43)**
- **Then they also will answer with the words; Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not minister to you? (Matthew 25:44)**
- **Then he will answer them with the words; Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of these least ones, you did not do it to me. (Matthew 25:45)**
- **And these will depart into everlasting cutting-off, but the righteous ones into everlasting life. (Matthew 25:46)**

- In another statement he showed that not mere humanitarian **hospitality** would bring lasting reward from God but hospitality rendered to God's prophets because they are recognized as God's representatives, disciples belonging to Christ.
- He that receives you receives me also, and he that receives me receives him also that sent me forth. (**Matthew 10:40**)
- He that receives a prophet because he is a prophet will get a prophet's reward, and he that receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will get a righteous man's reward. (**Matthew 10:41**)
- And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water to drink because he is a disciple, I tell you truly, he will by no means lose his reward. (**Matthew 10:42**)
- For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink on the ground that you belong to Christ, I truly tell you, he will by no means lose his reward. (**Mark 9:41**)
- But whoever stumbles one of these little ones that believe, it would be finer for him if a millstone such as is turned by an ass were put around his neck and he were actually pitched into the sea. (**Mark 9:42**)

· When Not To Be Extended

- The Bible tells Christians that there are some to whom they should not extend **hospitality**.
- Everyone that pushes ahead and does not remain in the teaching of the Christ does not have God. He that does remain in this teaching is the one that has both the Father and the Son. (**2 John 1:9**)
- If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, never receive him into your homes or say a greeting to him. (**2 John 1:10**)
- For he that says a greeting to him is a sharer in his wicked works. (**2 John 1:11**)

- To keep such a one in the home or to fraternize with him would be dangerous to one's own spirituality and, in effect, would be condoning his course. It would be misleading to others and a reproach to the congregation. This principle is expressed also at;
- Now I exhort you, brothers, to keep your eye on those who cause divisions and occasions for stumbling contrary to the teaching that you have learned, and avoid them. (**Romans 16:17**)
- For men of that sort are slaves, not of our Lord Christ, but of their own bellies, and by smooth talk and complimentary speech they seduce the hearts of guileless ones. (**Romans 16:18**)
- Be on the watch for the false prophets that come to you in sheep's covering, but inside they are ravenous wolves. (**Matthew 7:15**)
- But now I am writing you to quit mixing in company with anyone called a brother that is a fornicator or a greedy person or an idolater or a reviler or a drunkard or an extortioner, not even eating with such a man.
- But now I am writing you to quit mixing in company with anyone called a brother that is a fornicator or a greedy person or an idolater or a reviler or a drunkard or an extortioner, not even eating with such a man. (**1 Corinthians 5:11**)
- For what do I have to do with judging those outside? Do you not judge those inside. (**1 Corinthians 5:12**)
- While God judges those outside? Remove the wicked man from among yourselves. (**1 Corinthians 5:13**)

· Inns And Lodging Places

- The ancient inn was apparently little more than a place of shelter for the traveler, providing also a place for his animals, similar to what has been termed a **caravansary**. Such may have been the lodging place where Joseph's half brothers stayed on their journey back from Egypt to Canaan
- When one opened his sack to give fodder to his ass at the lodging place, he got to see his money, and here it was in the mouth of his bag. (**Genesis 42:27**)

- **But what occurred was that when we came to the lodging place and began opening our bags, why, here was the money of each one in the mouth of his bag, our money in full weight. So we would like to return it with our own hands. (Genesis 43:21)**
- **And where the angel appeared before Moses wife Zipporah.**
- **Now it came about on the road at the lodging place that Yehowah got to meet him and kept looking for a way to put him to death. (Exodus 4:24)**
- **It seems that prostitutes sometimes operated lodging places. Rahab the prostitute of Jericho lodged the two spies sent out by Joshua, and she showed kindness and hospitality to them by hiding them from their pursuers.**
- **Then Joshua the son of Nun sent two men out secretly from Shittim as spies, saying; Go, take a look at the land and Jericho. So they went and came to the house of a prostitute woman whose name was Rahab, and they took up lodging there. (Joshua 2:1)**
- **In time it was said to the king of Jericho; Look! Men from the sons of Israel have come in here tonight to search out the land. (Joshua 2:2)**
- **At that the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying; Bring out the men that came to you, that have come into your house, for it is to search out all the land that they have come. (Joshua 2:3)**
- **Meantime the woman took the two men and concealed them. And she proceeded to say; Yes, the men did come to me, and I did not know from where they were. (Joshua 2:4)**
- **And it came about at the closing of the gate by dark that the men went out. I just do not know where the men have gone. Chase after them quickly, for you will overtake them. (Joshua 2:5)**
- **She, though, had taken them up to the roof, and she kept them out of sight among stalks of flax laid in rows for her upon the roof. (Joshua 2:6)**
- **And the men chased after them in the direction of the Jordan at**

- the fords, and they shut the gate immediately after those chasing after them had gone out. ([Joshua 2:7](#))
- As for these, before they could lie down, she herself came up to them on the roof. ([Joshua 2:8](#))
 - And she went on to say to the men; I do know that Yehowah will certainly give you the land, and that the fright of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have become disheartened because of you. ([Joshua 2:9](#))
 - For we have heard how Yehowah dried up the waters of the Red Sea from before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, namely, Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. ([Joshua 2:10](#))
 - When we got to hear it, then our hearts began to melt, and no spirit has arisen yet in anybody because of you, for Yehowah your God is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. ([Joshua 2:11](#))
 - And now, please, swear to me by Yehowah that, because I have exercised loving-kindness toward you, you also will certainly exercise loving-kindness toward the household of my father, and you must give me a trustworthy sign. ([Joshua 2:12](#))
 - And you must preserve alive my father and my mother and my brothers and my sisters and all who belong to them, and you must deliver our souls from death. ([Joshua 2:13](#))
 - **Samson lodged at the house of a prostitute woman in Gaza until midnight, waiting to humiliate the Philistines by carrying off the city gates.**
 - Once Samson went to Gaza and saw a prostitute woman there and came in to her. ([Judges 16:1](#))
 - And report was made to the Gazites, saying; Samson has come in here. So they surrounded him and lay in wait for him all night long in the city gate. And they kept quiet the whole night, saying; As soon as the morning gets light, we must also kill him. ([Judges 16:2](#))

- **However, Samson kept lying till midnight and then rose at midnight and grabbed hold of the doors of the city gate and the two side posts and pulled them out along with the bar and put them upon his shoulders and went carrying them up to the top of the mountain that is in front of Hebron. (Judges 16:3)**
- **Some of the inns in Palestine during the First Century C.E. were evidently more elaborate, perhaps providing not only shelter but also food and other services, at a designated charge. The hospitable Samaritan of Jesus parable paid out of his own funds for the injured man's care at an inn.**
- **In reply Jesus said; A certain man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell among robbers, who both stripped him and inflicted blows, and went off, leaving him half-dead. (Luke 10:30)**
- **Now, by coincidence, a certain priest was going down over that road, but, when he saw him, he went by on the opposite side. (Luke 10:31)**
- **Likewise, a Levite also, when he got down to the place and saw him, went by on the opposite side. (Luke 10:32)**
- **But a certain Samaritan traveling the road came upon him and, at seeing him, he was moved with pity. (Luke 10:33)**
- **So he approached him and bound up his wounds, pouring oil and wine upon them. Then he mounted him upon his own beast and brought him to an inn and took care of him. (Luke 10:34)**
- **And the next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said; Take care of him, and whatever you spend besides this, I will repay you when I come back here. (Luke 10:35)**

·· The Guest

- **In ancient times the guest, while treated with the utmost courtesy and honor, was expected to observe certain amenities and requirements. For example, it was considered among the vilest of acts to partake of another man's food and then betray him or bring harm to him.**

- Also the man at peace with me, in whom I trusted, who was eating my bread, has magnified his heel against me. (**Psalms 41:9**)
- I am not talking about all of you, I know the ones I have chosen. But it is in order, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, He that used to feed on my bread has lifted up his heel against me. (**John 13:18**)
- The guest was not to presume upon his host or on the group gathered together by taking the seat of honor, or the place of prominence, but was to leave this for the host to determine.
- He then went on to tell the invited men an illustration, as he marked how they were choosing the most prominent places for themselves, saying to them. (**Luke 14:7**)
- When you are invited by someone to a marriage feast, do not lie down in the most prominent place. Perhaps someone more distinguished than you may at the time have been invited by him. (**Luke 14:8**)
- And he that invited you and him will come and say to you; Let this man have the place. And then you will start off with shame to occupy the lowest place. (**Luke 14:9**)
- But when you are invited, go and recline in the lowest place, that when the man that has invited you comes he will say to you, Friend, go on up higher. Then you will have honor in front of all your fellow guests. (**Luke 14:10**)
- For everyone that exalts himself will be humbled and he that humbles himself will be exalted. (**Luke 14:11**)
- Neither should he wear out his welcome, by being at the home of his host too long or by going there too often.
- Make your foot rare at the house of your fellowman, that he may not have his sufficiency of you and certainly hate you. (**Proverbs 25:17**)
- It may be noted that Jesus always imparted spiritual blessings when enjoying the **hospitality** of his host.

- **Now after these things he went out and beheld a tax collector named Levi sitting at the tax office, and he said to him; Be my follower. (Luke 5:27)**
- **And leaving everything behind he rose up and went following him. (Luke 5:28)**
- **Also, Levi spread a big reception feast for him in his house, and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and others who were with them reclining at the meal. (Luke 5:29)**
- **At this the Pharisees and their scribes began murmuring to his disciples, saying; Why is it you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners? (Luke 5:30)**
- **In reply Jesus said to them; Those who are healthy do not need a physician, but those who are ailing do. (Luke 5:31)**
- **I have come to call, not righteous persons, but sinners to repentance. (Luke 5:32)**
- **They said to him; The disciples of John fast frequently and offer supplications, and so do those of the Pharisees, but yours eat and drink. (Luke 5:33)**
- **Jesus said to them; You cannot make the friends of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them, can you? (Luke 5:34)**
- **Yet days will come when the bridegroom will indeed be taken away from them, then they will fast in those days. (Luke 5:35)**
- **Further, he went on to give an illustration to them; No one cuts a patch from a new outer garment and sews it onto an old outer garment. But if he does, then both the new patch tears away and the patch from the new garment does not match the old. (Luke 5:36)**
- **Moreover, no one puts new wine into old wineskins, but if he does, then the new wine will burst the wineskins, and it will be spilled out and the wineskins will be ruined. (Luke 5:37)**
- **But new wine must be put into new wineskins. (Luke 5:38)**

- No one that has drunk old wine wants new, for he says; The old is nice. (Luke 5:39)
- And he entered Jericho and was going through. (Luke 19:1)
- Now here there was a man called by the name Zacchaeus, and he was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. (Luke 19:2)
- Well, he was seeking to see who this Jesus was, but he could not for the crowd, because he was small in size. (Luke 19:3)
- So he ran ahead to an advance position and climbed a fig-mulberry tree in order to see him, because he was about to go through that way. (Luke 19:4)
- Now when Jesus got to the place, he looked up and said to him; Zacchaeus, hurry and get down, for today I must stay in your house. (Luke 19:5)
- With that he hurried and got down and with rejoicing he received him as guest. (Luke 19:6)
- But when they saw it, they all fell to muttering, saying; With a man that is a sinner he went in to lodge. (Luke 19:7)
- But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord; Look! The half of my belongings, Lord, I am giving to the poor, and whatever I extorted from anyone by false accusation I am restoring fourfold. (Luke 19:8)
- For a similar reason he told his disciples whom he sent out that when they reached a town, they should stay in the home where **hospitality** was extended them and not be transferring from house to house.
- They should not be thus seeking a place where the householder could provide them with more comfort, entertainment, or material things.
- After these things the Lord designated seventy others and sent them forth by twos in advance of him into every city and place to which he himself was going to come. (Luke 10:1)
- Then he began to say to them; The harvest, indeed, is great, but

- the workers are few. Therefore beg the Master of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest. (**Luke 10:2**)
- Go forth. Look! I am sending you forth as lambs in among wolves. (**Luke 10:3**)
 - Do not carry a purse, nor a food pouch, nor sandals, and do not embrace anybody in greeting along the road. (**Luke 10:4**)
 - Wherever you enter into a house say first; May this house have peace. (**Luke 10:5**)
 - And if a friend of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if there is not, it will turn back to you. (**Luke 10:6**)
 - So stay in that house, eating and drinking the things they provide, for the worker is worthy of his wages. Do not be transferring from house to house. (**Luke 10:7**)
 - Now he summoned the twelve, and he initiated sending them out two by two, and he began to give them authority over the unclean spirits. (**Mark 6:7**)
 - Also, he gave them orders to carry nothing for the trip except a staff alone, no bread, no food pouch, no copper money in their girdle purses. (**Mark 6:8**)
 - But to bind on sandals, and not to wear two undergarments. (**Mark 6:9**)
 - Further, he said to them; Wherever you enter into a home, stay there until you go out of that place. (**Mark 6:10**)
 - And wherever a place will not receive you nor hear you, on going out from there shake off the dirt that is beneath your feet for a witness to them. (**Mark 6:11**)
 - The apostle Paul, who did much traveling and who received **hospitality** from many of his Christian brothers, nevertheless, did not make himself a financial burden on any of them.
 - Much of the time he worked at a secular occupation, and he set forth the law:

- For you yourselves know the way you ought to imitate us, because we did not behave disorderly among you (**2 Thessalonians 3:7**)
- Nor did we eat food from anyone free. To the contrary, by labor and toil night and day we were working so as not to impose an expensive burden upon any one of you. (**2 Thessalonians 3:8**)
- Not that we do not have authority, but in order, that we might offer ourselves as an example to you to imitate us. (**2 Thessalonians 3:9**)
- In fact, also, when we were with you, we used to give you this order. **If anyone does not want to work, neither let him eat.** (**2 Thessalonians 3:10**)
- For we hear certain ones are walking disorderly among you, not working at all but meddling with what does not concern them. (**2 Thessalonians 3:11**)
- To such persons we give the order and exhortation in the Lord Jesus Christ that by working with quietness they should eat food they themselves earn. (**2 Thessalonians 3:12**)
- Neither have we been seeking glory from men, no, either from you or from others, though we could be an expensive burden as apostles of Christ. (**1 Thessalonians 2:6**)
- **By reason of this, Paul had an answer to the charges of the so-called superfine apostles in Corinth, who accused Paul of taking advantage of the Christians in the congregation there.**
- For I consider that I have not in a single thing proved inferior to your superfine apostles. (**2 Corinthians 11:5**)
- Or did I commit a sin by humbling myself that you might be exalted, because without cost I gladly declared the Good News of God to you? (**2 Corinthians 11:7**)
- Other congregations I robbed by accepting provisions in order to minister to you. (**2 Corinthians 11:8**)
- And yet when I was present with you and I fell in need, I did not become a burden to a single one, for the brothers that came from

Macedonia abundantly supplied my deficiency. Yes, in every way I kept myself unburdensome to you and will keep myself so. (2 Corinthians 11:9)

- **It is a truth of Christ in my case that no stop shall be put to this boasting of mine in the regions of Achaia. (2 Corinthians 11:10)**
- **He could boast in the fact that he provided the Good News to them absolutely without cost, not even taking the things he had the right to as an apostle and a minister of God.**
- **If we have sown spiritual things to you, is it something great if we shall reap things for the flesh from you? (1 Corinthians 9:11)**
- **If other men partake of this authority over you, do we not much more so? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this authority, but we are bearing all things, in order, that we might not offer any hindrance to the Good News about the Christ. (1 Corinthians 9:12)**
- **Do you not know that the men performing sacred duties eat the things of the temple, and those constantly attending at the altar have a portion for themselves with the altar? (1 Corinthians 9:13)**
- **In this way, too, the Lord ordained for those proclaiming the Good News to live by means of the Good News. (1 Corinthians 9:14)**
- **But I have not made use of a single one of these provisions. Indeed, I have not written these things that it should become so in my case, for it would be finer for me to die than, no man is going to make my reason for boasting void! (1 Corinthians 9:15)**
- **If, now, I am declaring the Good News, it is no reason for me to boast, for necessity is laid upon me. Really, woe is me if I did not declare the Good News! (1 Corinthians 9:16)**
- **If I perform this willingly, I have a reward. But if I do it against my will, all the same I have a stewardship entrusted to me. (1 Corinthians 9:17)**
- **What, then, is my reward? That while declaring the Good News I may furnish the Good News without cost, to the end that I may**

not abuse my authority in the Good News. (1 Corinthians 9:18)

·· Avoid Hypocritical Hospitality

- A warning about accepting a **hypocritical display of hospitality** is given at,
- Do not feed yourself with the food of anyone of ungenerous eye, nor show yourself craving his tasty dishes. (Proverbs 23:6)
- For as one that has calculated within his soul, so he is. Eat and drink, he says to you, **but his heart itself is not with you.** (Proverbs 23:7)
- Your morsel that you have eaten, you will vomit it out, and you will have wasted your pleasant words. (Proverbs 23:8)
- Do not feed yourself with the food of anyone of ungenerous eye, literally, evil as to eye, nor show yourself craving his tasty dishes. For as one that has calculated within his soul, so he is. Eat and drink, he says to you, but his heart itself is not with you.
- Your morsel that you have eaten, you will vomit it out, and you will have wasted your pleasant words. Not being the kind that gives something freeheartedly, but expecting something back for what he gives, such a person calculates against you, inviting you in a hearty manner, but with some ulterior motive.
- By partaking of his food, and particularly if you crave his tasty dishes so as to desire to enjoy them again, you place yourself to some extent under his power. You may find it hard to refuse some request of his, and you may possibly get involved in difficulty.
- Then you will feel sick at ever having eaten with him, and the pleasant words that you expressed, hoping that they would promote spirituality and upbuilding friendship, will certainly have been wasted.
- Do not incline my heart to anything bad, so as to carry on notorious deeds in wickedness with men who are practicing what is hurtful, that I may not feed myself on their dainties. (Psalms 141:4)