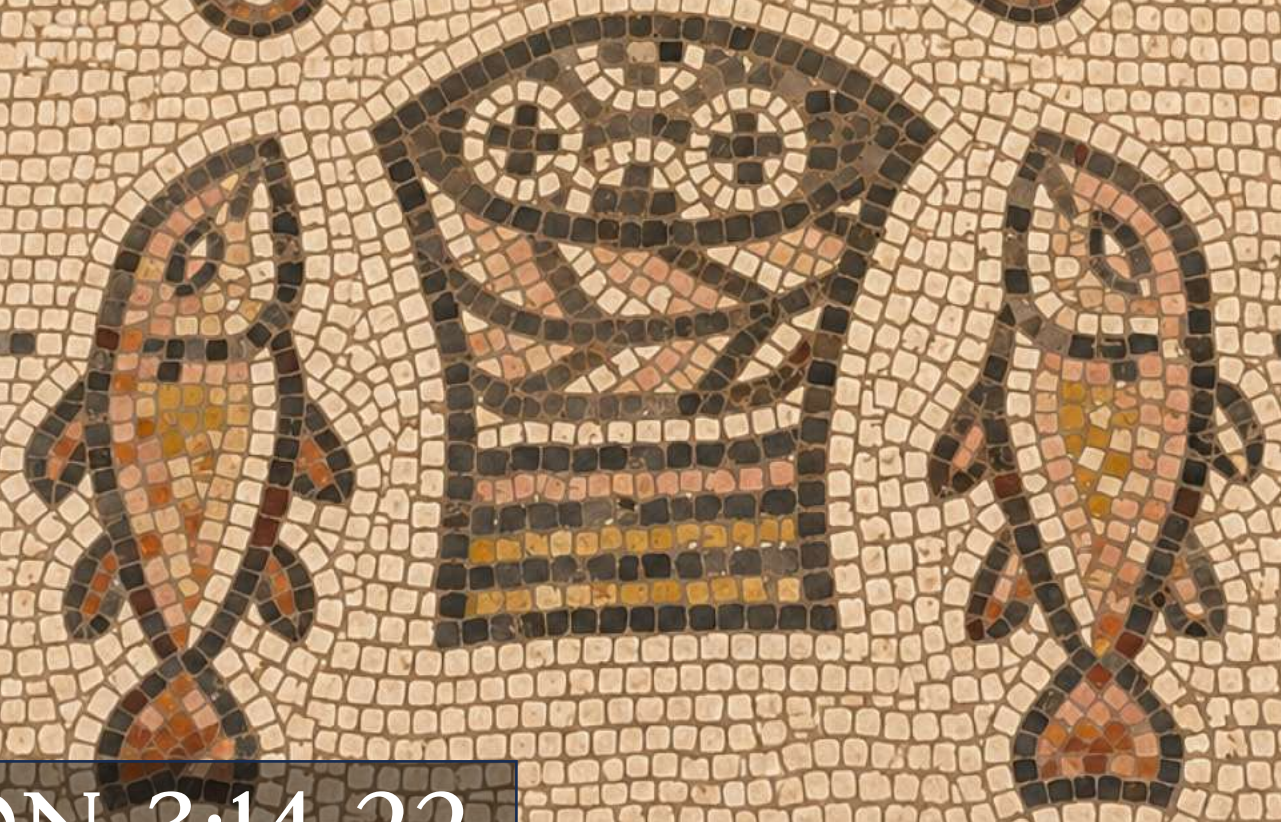


MEALS WITH

JESUS



REVELATION 3:14-22

“It would be difficult to overestimate the importance of table fellowship for the cultures of the Mediterranean basin.... Mealtimes were far more than occasions for the individuals to consume nourishment. Being welcomed at the table for the purpose of eating food with another person had become a ceremony richly **symbolic of friendship, intimacy & unity**”



“In the first century, given the intimate and culturally significant nature of the setting of meals, dining was an occasion to draw boundaries, solidify kinship, and perpetuate social values. To eat with people of a different rank or class, to eat with sinners, or to eat with unclean was to defile oneself and recognize their status as either acceptable or equal to one’s own. Loyalty to God was expressed through eating the right kinds of foods with the right kinds of people.”



① Jesus Eats with Sinners

Mark 2:16-17 “And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, “Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?” 17 And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”



② Jesus was a Friend of Sinners

Luke 7:34 'The Son of Man has come eating and drinking and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'

Luke 19:10 The Son of Man came to seek & save the Lost



③ Jesus shows Grace to Sinners

④ Jesus Invites Sinners to His Table

Luke 19:5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.”



The Invitation (Revelation 3:14-22)



(14) The Authority

1. Jesus has all Authority over church
2. Jesus has all Authority over us



(15) The Examination

(16) The Rebuke

1. Are we making Jesus Sick?
2. Are we Living in Sin?



(17) The Problem

1. Worldly Success leads to Self-Deception
2. Worldly Success is Not Spiritual Success



(18) The Counsel

(19) The Affirmation

- Jesus Rebukes those He Loves
- Jesus wants deeper intimacy



(20) The Invitation

1. Jesus is Knocking

Matthew 11:28-30 “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”



2. Jesus is Speaking

- In Creation
- In our Conscience
- In His Word



3. Jesus is Eating

- By Responding to His Knocking
- By Repenting and Believing
- By Entering into a Relationship
with Christ



(21) The Promise

(22) The Plea

- For Unbelievers: Repent & Believe!
- For Believers: Repent & Believe!

