

"Then Said [Jesus] unto him, 'A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, "Come; for all things are now ready." And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, "I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused." And another said, "I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused." And another said, "I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come." So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. 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 hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind." And the servant said, "Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room." And the lord said unto the servant, "Go out into the highways and hedges, and **Compel Them To Come** in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper." *Luke 14:16-24 KJV*



Our Lord was certainly not making a case for soup kitchens, although they are not without merit. The hungry do not need much persuasion to be compelled to a feast. Soup kitchens never have too much food. So it is with the Gospel. Many make excuses not to obey God's Word, which at best are just thinly veiled rejection. Don't waste your time trying to compel those who make excuses, but move on to those who truly hunger for the Love and Mercy of God. Those full of themselves are blind to hellfire licking at their feet, because Satan has deceived them into believing they can merit Eternal Life on their own. We must find the hungry to feed the hungry. Many do not know they are dying of starvation until the aroma of freshly baked bread reaches them through our faithful obedience to the Bread of Life. *"For we are unto God a sweet savour (aroma) of Christ. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your Light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father Which Is in Heaven."* Everyone is blind in the dark. Even a small candle is welcome in a dark room. Our Light is the Truth of God's Word which we let shine through our cheerful obedience; the candlestick that lifts God's Word up so all may see. Is your life a candlestick for the Light of Truth? Is your obedience of God's Word a "sweet savour of Christ" to the world?

Obey the Truth; lift up the Light,
To pierce their darkness, give men sight,
Let Bread of Life their hunger slack,
That they may nevermore have lack. —CGP

I remember riding in the car past the Wonder Bread Bakery in Tampa and the aroma of fresh baked bread would make instantly hungry! Our first-grade class once went there on a field trip. It was a feast for the nose! My mouth was watering! At the end of the tour we were each given a tiny loaf of fresh-baked, still warm bread to eat. Mmmmmmm!

"Now thanks be unto God, Which Always Causeth us to Triumph in Christ, and Maketh Manifest the Savour of His Knowledge BY US in every place. For we are unto God a Sweet Savour of Christ, in them that are Saved, and in them that perish: To the one we are the savour of death unto death; and to the other the savour of Life unto Life. And who is sufficient for these things? For we are not as many, which corrupt the Word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the Sight of God speak we in Christ." *2 Corinthians 2:14-17 KJV*