

The Parable of the House Party



And it came to pass in the days of Jesus' youth, when he dwelt in Nazareth, that he approached his father Joseph and his mother Mary, saying, "Hear me, I pray thee, for I have a matter upon my heart."

And Joseph, the carpenter, lifting his gaze from his work, said, "What wouldst thou, my son?"

And Jesus answered, "Lo, my friends desire to gather, to break bread and rejoice together in our house. May I, therefore, make ready a feast for them in thy dwelling?"

But Mary, who was wise and of discerning spirit, spake, "My son, hast thou forgotten the last time thou didst gather thy friends? Was it not then that water was turned into wine in such abundance that the jars overflowed? And didst thou not walk upon the waters of the well to amaze thy companions?"

And Joseph added, "Yea, and the elders of the village murmured against us, saying, 'What manner of house is this, where strange wonders abound and youth are led astray?'"

Jesus, hearing this, lowered his head and spake humbly, "Father, Mother, I confess my zeal was great and my judgment lacking. Yet now I am older and have gained wisdom. No longer shall I use

my gifts for folly, but for good only. Trust in me, for I am redeemed.”

Mary, folding her arms, regarded him closely and said, “Art thou truly changed, my son? For the power within thee is great, and thy heart is quick to compassion and to jest. Wilt thou refrain from marvels that bring chaos to our house?”

And Jesus replied, “Yea, I shall. For now I seek only fellowship and the joy of my friends, and not the astonishment of men. Let this gathering be simple, and if there be wine, it shall come by thy hand, not mine.”

Joseph, scratching his beard, said, “If we allow this, thou must promise to keep peace and order. For if any neighbor complains or if marvels bring disquiet, we shall withhold from thee the liberty to use thy gifts within these walls.”

And Mary added, “Even thy miracles, my son, are given not for thy pleasure, but for the glory of God. Remember this always.”

Then Jesus lifted his hands and said, “Thy words are just, and I shall obey. Let my friends come, and let us rejoice in simplicity and in peace. I vow no marvel shall be wrought by me.”

So Joseph and Mary, being persuaded, granted his request, and Jesus made ready for the feast. And his friends came, and there was much laughter and gladness, yet no marvels were performed.

And Mary, observing her son, said unto Joseph, “Perhaps he hath truly grown in wisdom.”

And Joseph nodded, saying, “It is well. Yet we shall keep watch, lest his zeal overtake his resolve.”

Thus the feast passed without incident, and Jesus gained favor in the eyes of his parents, and his friends departed with joy. And Mary treasured these things in her heart, saying, “Verily, he is becoming the man he is meant to be.” Source: Chat GPT