

The Kingdom Parables

The Wedding Feast

Matthew 22:1-14

Everyone loves a marriage - great preparation, great joy
(Marriage renewal Sunday - June 5th)

What a privilege to be invited - but what if we agree and then reject?

Review - Kingdom Parables - about the Kingdom of God - not heaven but now on the earth - planted, growing and producing fruit in the heart.

Maybe Wednesday of Christ's last week.

Biblical Background - After Triumphant Entry and cleansing of Temple

Immediately following parable of evil farmers - **Read 21:45**

I. The Parable Proclaimed

A. The invitation of the King rejected - Wedding for his son 1-7

1. Unwilling to come **3**
2. Second invitation met with violence
Feast described - all is ready **4**
Some simply ignored- too busy with work and business **5**
But others seized and killed the messengers **6**
3. King responded to their rejection and sins **7**
Completely destroyed

B. New invitation given and received **8-10**

1. Those who rejected are not worthy **Acts 13:46**
2. Invitation went out to all - evil and good
3. Wedding hall was filled

C. Intruder cast out **11-13**

1. King himself looked over the crowd
2. One man did not have the wedding clothes on
3. He was questioned but had no excuse
4. He was cast out - darkness, weeping

D. Conclusion **14**

Many are called but few are chosen

II. The Symbolism Simplified

A. Wedding traditions

Arranged - planned - invitations given and accepted
Preparation for 3-7 days of feasting
Notice sent out when all is ready
Wedding garments provided for all in the wedding

B. Symbolism

1. The King is God - preparing wedding for son
2. The Son is Christ -Christ as bridegroom
- John the Baptist **John 3:29**
- Christ himself **Matthew 9:15**
3. Invited guests - first Israel
Then open to all - whosoever
God does not want any to perish **2 Peter 3:9**
4. The invitation is then extended to all **Acts 13:46 Then**
5. The wedding garment - Christ Himself
Salvation - **Isaiah 61:10, Galatians 3:27, Romans 13:14**

III. The Truths Taught

1. God's invitation is extended to everyone

Even those who are (like all of us) sinners **1 Corinthians 6:9-11**

Jesus said whosoever believes shall be saved **Romans 10:13**

2. Our response is crucial **Matthew 23:37**

Rejection in any form is still rejection

Some were unwilling to come

Some ignored the invitation

Some were just too busy

Some rejected the message and messengers

3. Rejection bring separation **Hebrews 2:3**

4. Grace does not eliminate standards

Jesus said - Deny yourself take up cross and follow me.

Entrance - Repentance and Confession of sins

- Commitment means obedience and vigil

5. Many are called but few end up at the wedding feast

It is not the invitation that is lacking

It is not because the feast is not ready

Jesus said, "Many are called, but few are chosen.

Called - those who receive invitation --all.

Chosen - those who respond