

The Parable of the Wedding Feast Sun Am 7/28/19

Matthew 22:1-3 (NKJV)

22 And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said:

² "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,

³ and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.

John 1:11 (NKJV)

11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

God chose the descendants of Abraham to inherit His Kingdom on earth. He sent deliverers to turn the hearts of His people back to Him after they had fallen away, but the Israelites had turned away from Him to worship other gods.

Matthew 22:4 (NKJV)

⁴ Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding." '

Although rejected, God continued to woo His people. He warned and disciplined them, still they refused to repent. God wouldn't give up on them, but they paid no attention to Him and went off to other business.

Matthew 22:5-7(NKJV)

⁵ But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business.

⁶ And the rest seized his servants, treated *them* spitefully, and killed *them*.

⁷ But when the king heard *about it*, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

God sent His army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. God sent prophets to warn of punishment but the Israelites tortured and killed these messengers. Through the armies of Syria, Babylon, and Rome God chastened the nations of Israel and Judah.

Hebrews 10:29-31 (NKJV)

²⁹ Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

³⁰ For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people."

³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Matthew 22:8-10 (NKJV)

⁸ Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy.

⁹ Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.'

¹⁰ So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding *hall* was filled with guests.

God did not give up on mankind, He desired to find someone to follow Him for redemption. He sent His servants to the gentiles, those who were not of Israel. To this day, Israel is still rebelling against the Messiah.

Luke 13:34 (NKJV)

³⁴ "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen *gathers* her brood under *her* wings, but you were not willing!

Acts 13:46 (NKJV)

⁴⁶ Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.

Matthew 22:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment.

This verse speaks to those who are Christians in name only. To those who are depending on their own works, their own self-righteousness to make them acceptable to God.

Isaiah 64:6 (NKJV)

⁶ But we are all like an unclean *thing*,
And all our righteousnesses *are* like filthy rags;
We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the
wind, Have taken us away.

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NKJV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith,
and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God,

⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.

¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ
Jesus for good works, which God prepared
beforehand that we should walk in them.

Revelation 7:9 (NKJV)

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great
multitude which no one could number, of all nations,
tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the
throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white
robes, with palm branches in their hands,

Just as the king provided the wedding garment for the guests, God provides salvation. To refuse the garment is insulting to the giver. In this parable, the one who insulted the king was thrown into the darkness. Nothing is hidden from God. If you are maintaining a façade of righteousness, He knows. If you are trying to hold onto the world and maintain your salvation, it won't work. You cannot serve two masters.

Matthew 6:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Accept God's free gift of salvation today.

Matthew 22:13 (NKJV)

¹³ Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The wages of sin is death the Bible warns.

Romans 6:23 (NKJV)

²³ For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 14:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Nothing will save us except the blood of Jesus.

Matthew 22:14 (NKJV)

14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."

The invitation is for everyone, but not many will respond. Have you responded?

"Choose for yourselves this day, whom you will serve. . . .but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" .

We have all sinned and deserve God's judgment. God, the Father, sent His only Son to satisfy that judgment for those who believe in Him. Jesus, the creator and eternal Son of God, who lived a sinless life, loves us so much that He died for our sins, taking the punishment that we deserve, was buried, and rose from the dead according to the Bible. If you truly believe and trust this in your heart, receiving Jesus alone as your Savior, declaring, "Jesus is Lord," you will be saved from judgment and spend eternity with God in heaven.

Joshua 24:15 (NKJV)

15 And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of [a]the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."