Keeping The Kingdom Sun Am 1/23/22

Matthew 21:33-44 NKJV

33“Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country.

34Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit.

35And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another.

36Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them.

37Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’

38But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.’

39So they took him and cast *him* out of the vineyard and killed *him.*

40“Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?”

41They said to Him, “He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease *his* vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.”

42Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ‘The stone which the builders rejected  
Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord’s doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes’?

43“Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it.

44And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder.”

# Matthew 22:2-14 NKJV

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

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

# 4Again, 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.” ’

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

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

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

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

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

# 10So 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.

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

# 12So he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless.

# 13Then 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.’

# 14“For many are called, but few *are* chosen.”

# Luke 14:16-24 NKJV

# 16Then He said to him, “A certain man gave a great supper and invited many,

# 17and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’

# 18But they all with one *accord* began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.’

# 19And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.’

# 20Still another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’

# 21So that servant came and reported these things to his master. 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 here *the* poor and *the* maimed and *the* lame and *the* blind.’

# 22And the servant said, ‘Master, it is done as you commanded, and still there is room.’

# 23Then the master said to the servant, ‘Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled.

# 24For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste my supper.’ ”