

The Parable Of The Wedding Feast

Matt. 22:1-14

Introduction:

- A. This parable warns against rejecting the Lord's invitation.
 - 1. A warning to the Jews, especially the Pharisees. (21:43-46).
 - a. Jews invited first. (cf. Matt. 10:5-17; Rom. 1:16).
 - b. Jews rejected invitation. (v. 8).
 - c. Invitation extended to others. (v. 9; 21:43).
 - 2. A warning to all of us: Do not reject the king's invitation.
- B. This parable illustrates two important attributes of God: His goodness and wrath.
 - 1. Goodness seen in the King's gracious invitation to His son's wedding feast.
 - 2. Wrath seen in the King's righteous indignation at those who abused the invitation.

Discussion:

I. The King's Invitation. (verses 2-4).

- A. It was an invitation to honor: A Royal Wedding.
 - 1. Opportunity have fellowship with Him. (cf. 1 John 1:1-4).
 - 2. Opportunity to be honored with His Son — joint heirs with Christ. (Rom. 8:17; 1 John 3:1-3).
- B. It was an invitation to abundance. (v.4).
 - 1. Think of preparation for such a feast — preparation for kingdom.
 - 2. Think of provisions for such a feast — Riches in Christ. (Eph. 1:7,8,18,3:8,16).
- C. It was an invitation to many. (v.10).
 - 1. Gospel went first to Jews.
 - 2. Then to whole world. (Acts 1:8; Rom. 10:12,13; Matt. 28:18-20).

II. The King's Indignation. (verses 7,12,13)

- A. Toward the indifferent. (v.5 Amaleo=not care)
 - 1. Had not no interest in the wedding. (cf. 1 Cor. 2:13,14).
 - 2. Had other things to do, and places to go. (cf. Luke 14:15-24).
- B. Toward the abusive.
 - 1. These went beyond politely declining out of indifference.
 - 2. These heap abuse on those who delivered the invitation. (cf. Matt. 5:11-12; 10:17-22).
 - 3. These, along with indifferent, destroyed. (v. 7)
- C. Toward the backslider. (v. 11-13).
 - 1. He had accepted invitation and became a guest.
 - 2. He had insulted king by not wearing wedding garment.
 - a. Such garments were given as gifts to guests. (See Barnes Notes)
 - b. Appropriate spiritual clothing provided by the Lord to be worn by Christians.
 - (1) Lord's standard of religion, rather than own.
 - (2) Lord's standard of morals, rather than own.
 - (3) Lord's standard of purity, rather than own.
 - (4) Lord's standard of faithfulness, rather than own.
 - 3. He was cast into outer darkness. (cf. Heb. 10:26-29; Heb. 3:12)

Conclusion: Remember

- A. You are invited to the King's table.
- B. You are responding to the invitation in some way.
- C. You are determining the king's reaction.
- D. You can accept His invitation by obeying the gospel?