

The Parable of the Marriage Feast: Israel's Rejection of God's Great Invitation

Mathew 22: 01 – 14

(Lk. 14:15-24)

1. <i>Jesus again shared a parable</i> a. Of the Kingdom of Heaven b. Of a marriage prepared by God for His Son 2. <i>God's invitation to Israel</i> a. God invited Israel, but they rejected b. God showed great mercy 1) Extended a second invitation 2) Prepared an abundance c. God saw His second invitation rejected 1) By a busy farmer 2) By a hurried businessman 3) By the religionist and the worldly; Who denied, scoffed and persecuted d. God judged Israel for rejecting His invitation 1) Destroyed the murderers 2) Rejected the rejecters 3. <i>God's invitation to any and all</i> a. God then invited all 1) Those who were out on the street corners 2) Those who were both good and bad b. God's invitation was accepted	1 Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: 2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. 3 He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. 4 Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.' 5 But they paid no attention and went off — one to his field, another to his business. 6 The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. 7 The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. 8 Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. 9 Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' 10 So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.
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4. <i>God's confrontation with the guests</i> a. God entered to see the guests 1) He saw a man without wedding clothes 2) He asked only one question 3) The man was speechless b. God judged the man who was not clothed properly 1) Was bound 2) Was taken away 3) Was cast into the darkness c. God calls and invites many, but few are chosen	11 But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. 12 'Friend,' he asked, 'how did you get in here without wedding clothes?' The man was speechless. 13 Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 For many are invited, but few are chosen."
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