

THE PARABLE OF THE WEDDING BANQUET

Matthew 22:1-22

Key Verses: 22:1,2

"Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: `The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.'"

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. According to this parable, what is the kingdom of heaven like? Who is the King? The Son? Read also Revelation 7:17; 21:1,2,4; 5:8-10,12; 3:20. What do these verses add to the Biblical picture of the kingdom of heaven?
2. Read verses 3-6. What was the first response of the invited guests to the king's invitation? What do the king's actions teach about God? (4) What does the second response of the invited guests tell us about sinful man? What did the king do? (7)
3. Read verses 8-10. How did the king fill the wedding hall? Who do these guests represent? What does this teach us about God's shepherd heart? What can we learn from this parable about the work of servants?
4. Read verses 11-13. Who does the man without wedding clothes represent? How can we prepare wedding clothes for the heavenly banquet? What does it mean to make a commitment to Jesus? (See Col 2:6,7; Eph 3:16,17; Php 3:10) What does verse 14 mean?
5. Read verses 15-22. How did the Pharisees try to trap Jesus? How did Jesus answer? What does he teach us about our responsibility to our nation and God? Think about the meaning of responsibility and commitment.