

The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

Matthew 22:1-14

Key Verse: 22: 2

“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.”

1. Read verses 1-2. According to this parable, what is the kingdom of heaven like? Who is the King? The Son? Think about the joy of a King's wedding banquet and the great privilege to be included in the guest list. What does this wedding feast represent? (Compare Rev 19:7). What does this teach us about God and the Kingdom of heaven?

2. Read verses 3-7. When the servants went to tell the invited guests to "Come to the banquet," what was their response? The second time, when more servants went, how did the servants describe the menu?

3. Why did the invited guests ignore the King's invitation? (4-5) How did these invited guests show their contempt for God? What do the king's persistent actions teach about God? (4) What do the responses of invited guests tell us about sinful man? What would the enraged king finally do? (7)

4. 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 heart? What can we learn from this parable about the work of servants? Who do they represent?

5. Read verses 11-13. Who does the man without wedding clothes represent? What happened to him? Why is this such a serious matter? How can we prepare wedding clothes for the heavenly banquet? What does it mean that many are invited but few are chosen? (Compare Isaiah 61:10; Ro 10:3)