

The Marriage Banquet

Matthew 22:1-14

Faith Portal Church

YOUTH

Unit 3 Lesson 11

Supplemental Texts

Luke 14:16-24

Focus Verse

“So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.” – Matthew 22:10

Introduction

This parable is somewhat like the Great Supper parable in Luke 14:15-24, but it is different. And it is only detailed in the Gospel of Matthew. The word “again” in Matt 22:1 implies that the parable was given after the parable of the householder (Matt 21:33-46). The Jewish religious leaders had left and gone when Jesus gave the parable to His audience, based on Mark 12:12.

Deeper Look

A Certain King – Matt 22:1-7

The parable tells us about a king who sent his servants to call those invited to the wedding banquet of his son but those invited did not come. He sent yet again other servants to persuade the invitees to come and enjoy the enormous provision he has made for them. Regrettably, they ignored the royal invitation—some went about their businesses, and some abused and killed the servants. These wicked people incurred the wrath of the king on their city for their evil deeds.

The parable refers to the gospel invitation to the Gentiles upon its rejection by the Jews. The king in this parable is God, and the son is Jesus Christ. The marriage speaks to the incarnation of Christ, His death and resurrection, and universal invitation to salvation. The servants here refer to the preachers of the gospels sent to the Jews, and the armies, the Roman soldiers.

The Wedding Is Ready – Matt 22:8-14

The banquet must go on as planned because a king has no challenge of getting guests to his party. “As many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage” was the command of the king, implying the gospel invitation now goes to all and no more restricted to a certain group of people. “When the king came in to see the guests” describes when God will come to judge the world. Jesus likely alluded to Zep 1:7,8 in this passage. In the East, it is customary for the host to present his guests with robes freely; however, the man here failed to wear the proper robe for the wedding. Thus, he faced the consequence. Everyone who accepts the gospel invitation must put on Christ!

Questions

1. What kind of relationship would you say existed between the king and those invited first? Was the relationship appreciated by both parties? Explain.
2. The king had more to offer the people he invited than the people had to offer him. Why were they ignorant of the privilege the king offered to them? In what way are people today ignorant of their spiritual need?
3. How did the king try to persuade those invited to the banquet to reconsider attending the banquet? Did the persuasion work? How does the king represent the Person of God?
4. What could have caused the rage of some of those invited against the servants of the king? Did the servants deserve what they suffered? How does the world today treat the servants of God?
5. Was the king justified in his anger and judgment? Explain. Many think today that God will not punish those who reject Him and persecute His children. How credible is that thought? Explain.
6. How many are given the gospel invitation? See Isa 55:1; Matt 11:28; John 3:16.
7. Why was a guest speechless when the king asked him why he showed up without proper clothes? Would he have had proper clothes on if he knew he would suffer?

Personal Meditation

The host's way or the guest's way? Here, we see a man invited to a royal wedding banquet in a robe different than the one provided by the host, a king. Historically, the guests of Oriental kings were given festal robes for such a banquet. In the same way, God clothes His saints (Rom 13:14; Gal 3:27) for the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev 19). To the Orientals, to be clothed in something other than the proper clothes meant that the guest felt his own clothes was fitting for the banquet. This attitude is deemed insulting to the host. So, who should comply? The host, or the guest. God has sent out His gospel invitation. Remember to put on the righteousness of Jesus alone in His kingdom. Subscribe to God's way today and forever!

Just as the guest's attire could not make him fit for the banquet, but suffered expulsion and eternal punishment, so too, our self-righteousness cannot make us fit for the kingdom of God but to face His wrath. The Bible says, "All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." — Isa 64:6. Each one is called into the gospel, but few are chosen because they put on Jesus for their robe.

DAILY STUDY

Monday	Matt 22:1-3
Tuesday	Matt 22:4-5
Wednesday	Matt 22:6-7
Thursday	Matt 22:8-9
Friday	Matt 22:10-12
Saturday	Matt 22:13-14



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