
KINGDOM
COME

1 Again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying,
2 “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son,
3 and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come.
4 Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen & my fat calves have been slaughtered, & everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.”

Matthew 22:1-14

5 But they paid no attention & went off, one
to his farm, another to his business,
6 while the rest seized his servants, treated
them shamefully, & killed them.
7 The king was angry, & he sent his troops
& destroyed those murderers & burned
their city.

Matthew 22:1-14

The King's Invitation Is Rejected ~ v.1–7

King – God

Servants – Prophets/Apostles

Guests – Israel

Israel – Rejected the Gospel

- The invitation reveals the king's *generosity*
- The excuses reveal *misplaced* priorities
- The hostility reveals the *seriousness* of rejecting the king

Kingdom Focus: Don't let the ordinary things of life become excuses for rejecting the rule of Jesus.

8 Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding
feast is ready, but those invited were not
worthy.
9 Go therefore to the main roads & invite to
the wedding feast as many as you find.’
10 And those servants went out into the roads
& gathered all whom they found, both bad &
good. So the wedding hall was filled with
guests.

Matthew 22:1-14

The King's Invitation Is Extended ~ v. 8-10

- The king's purpose is not defeated by the rejection
- The invitation reaches people who could never claim they deserved it
- God's invitation is open to people from all walks of life

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" – Matthew 28:19

Kingdom Focus: We must never treat God's grace as something we deserve or treat anyone as beyond the reach of the gospel.

11 “But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment.

12 And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless.

13 Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand & foot & cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping & gnashing of teeth.’

14 For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Matthew 22:1-14

The King's Invitation Requires a Response ~ v. 11–13

'All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags' - Isaiah 64:6

'For He has clothed me with garments of salvation, & arrayed me in a robe of His righteousness' - Isaiah 61:10

- The guest's presence does not excuse his failure to honor the king
- The guests' silence offers no defense
- A warning against assuming that outward *association* with God's people is the same as genuine faith

Kingdom Focus: Don't confuse being around Jesus with truly belonging to Jesus. Respond to His invitation with genuine faith & a life that honors Him.

The King's Call Demands Self-Examination ~ v.14

'I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.' - **Luke 5:32**

Repentance - metanoia (μετάνοια) - **a change of mind & a transformation of one's entire outlook.**

'Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate & broad is the road that leads to destruction, & many enter through it. But small is the gate & narrow the road that leads to life, & only a few find it.' – **Matthew 7:13-14**

'Work out your salvation with fear & trembling' – **Phil 2:12**

'For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would *not be a servant of Christ.'* – Gal 1:10

HOW DO I DO THIS?

Before YOU LOOK OUTSIDE
... YOU LOOK INSIDE!

Hearing the invitation or religious familiarity is not the same as responding faithfully & a changed heart

- **Am I making excuses?** What am I allowing to take priority over Jesus?
- **Am I presuming?** Have I mistaken 'church stuff' or Bible knowledge for a surrendered heart?
- **Am I responding?** Does my life demonstrate genuine faith in & allegiance to the King?

Head: Know the King

Heart: Surrender to the King

Hands: Live for the King

