

A Study of the Book of Matthew Chapter 22 v. 1-14

Jesus continues with another parable directed at the Pharisees, the Parable of the Wedding Feast.

(v. 1-14)

- As we get into this Parable, who does the King represent? Who does the son represent?
_____ (v. 2)
 - The King represents God, the son represents Jesus!
- What does the king tell all of his servants to do? _____ (v. 3)
 - Just as the king calls his servants to the feast, we as believers are called to go reach people for the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 28:19-20).
- What response do the people have to this invitation? _____ (v. 3)
 - The New King James Version states the people "...were not willing to come." These people weren't incapable of arriving, but instead are choosing to ignore the King's invitation.
 - What would the actions taking place in this parable look like in a spiritual context?

- How does the King respond to people rejecting his invitation? _____ (v. 4)
 - In this parable the king doesn't shun the people, but instead gives them another opportunity to come to the wedding. In the same way Jesus doesn't just allow the Pharisees and Jews to hold onto the Old Law or allow the Gentiles to follow their own way, but instead offers them salvation through Him.
 - Despite a second invitation and knowing what the king has to offer at the feast, the people again ignore Him.
- How do some of the people respond to the slaves being sent out? _____ (v. 6)
 - Not only do some people choose to ignore the invitation, but some people even choose to commit violence and kill the slaves.
 - In today's time, we are the slaves of the King. Some people will ignore the invitation we offer them to God's kingdom, and we should be prepared to face even more for the sake of Christ.
 - How does the King respond to this? _____ (v. 7)
 - The king destroys those that harmed his servants. As believers we must understand that if we suffer for the sake of Jesus vengeance is not ours to seek but instead must understand that God will handle those that harm or work against His people.
- After getting rid of the people who hurt his slaves, the King tells his servants to go invite those who weren't worthy. (v. 8-9)
 - We now get a bit more context of who the people are in verses 1-7. The Jews were God's people, but in this context they have rejected him. The King (God) then calls for those who aren't worthy to be invited (sinners, gentiles, etc.)
 - Notice that there is no prejudice for these people to be reached. The slaves are instructed to invite as many as they find!

- Who do the slaves end up bringing to the wedding? _____ (v. 10)
 - This should be a message to how we minister and reach people today. We are not called to determine who can or can't be brought to Christ, but instead must try to reach everyone!
- What does the king find when he comes to see the wedding guests? _____ (v.11-12)
 - During these times, if there was a wedding and the host was rich, they would provide the guests with wedding clothes to wear. By this man not being dressed in wedding clothes, he is willfully showing disrespect to the King.
 - In the same way this man disregarded the wedding clothes, some people will reject the Gospel of Christ. We can invite people to God's Kingdom, but they must do right and choose to follow Christ.
- What happens to the guest that disregarded these things? _____ (v. 13)
 - Jesus is very clear with this parable. Those who choose not to follow Christ will be forever separated from God. Instead of the chosen being the Jews, God's chosen people are those who choose to come to Christ and follow God's word.