

# **Come To The Feast!**

## **Matthew 22:1-14**

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1. The reason Jesus told this parable was a reaction to the religious leaders who were out to get Jesus. They were looking for ways to arrest him. So He told them this Parable.
  2. This parable is an allegory. One thing stands for another.
  3. In Matthew 22, Jesus tells a story that is a disturbing story in some ways, that doesn't have a happy ending. Let's look at it together.
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- I. The King Offers An Invitation That Is Rejected. Matthew 22:2-3, "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come."
    - A. All people are familiar with the joy related to a wedding banquet.
    - B. Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a wedding banquet.
      1. Romans 14:17
  - II. The King Offers An Invitation That Is Persistent. Matthew 22:4-6, "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.' But they paid no attention and went off - one to his field, another to his business."
    - A. This is actually the story of three invitations.
    - B. Let me press that to your hearts.
  - III. The King Extends His Invitation Mercifully. Matthew 22:8-10, "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests."
    - A. The king had the servants go to the highways and street corners.
    - B. God's invitation is extended to everyone.
      1. 2 Peter 3:9; Revelation 22:17; I Corinthians 6:9b-11a
  - IV. The King Examines The Wedding Guest. Matthew 22:11-14, "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. 'Friend,' he asked, 'how did you get in here without wedding clothes?' The man was speechless. "Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "For many are invited, but few are chosen."
    - A. How could any of the guests be expected to wear the appropriate attire?
    - B. Grace does not eliminate standards.
      1. "Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?" Romans 6:1-2