

An Invitation to Great Joy to All!

Matthew 22:1 And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, 2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, 3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. 4 Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. 5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: 6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. 7 But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. 8 Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. 9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. 10 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. 11 And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: 12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. 13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

1. Parable to communicate a very hard truth 22:1 And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said,
 - a. Jesus is clearly telling Israel, the Jews, of His judgment against them
 - b. He is setting them aside to bring in the church to do the ministry of world evangelism
 - c. Review the parables you have already seen
 - i. The parable of the two sons 21:28 But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. 29 He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. 30 And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not. 31 Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you. 32 For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.
 1. The sinful, wicked, people at first rejected the gospel but later accepted and were saved
 2. Those religious leaders that should have known the truth said they would obey but didn't

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3. It would be far better to be openly rebellious and then repent than to be faking obedience
 4. The religious people would have been sure that prostitutes and tax collectors couldn't be saved Matthew 9:13 But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.
 5. The religious people acted like they loved God but didn't live it out
 6. They had been fully exposed to all of God's truth from the Scriptures and now had seen the very Son of God and rejected it all
 7. The sinners had rebelled but later realized that they were wrong, repented and turned to Jesus to follow Him
- ii. The parable of the vineyard Matthew 21:33 Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country: 34 And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. 35 And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. 37 But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. 38 But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. 39 And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. 40 When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? 41 They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons. 42 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? 43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.
1. In this parable the Lord has a vineyard
 2. He allows the farmers to work His vineyard. He rents it out to them.
 3. They should give Him the harvest
 4. Instead of giving Him the harvest they decide to mistreat all of His servants and even kill His Son

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5. These farmers are the Jews who were given the privilege of getting the gospel to the world
 6. They failed and God moved them to one side
 7. He is bringing in others that can and will give Him His fruit from the harvest
- d. These parables teach great truths that still apply to us
- i. We should hear and obey the truth from our hearts
 - ii. Playing church will never be enough with our God
 - iii. God will reject those that have a form of godliness but it is not real
 - iv. God has given His people an opportunity to serve Him and give Him the fruits of His harvest
 - v. If the nation of Israel will not do their duty then God will take the privilege from them and give it to another
 - vi. We are the ones that got that privilege given to us
 - vii. We could lose the blessings of God on our church if we do not take seriously the responsibility of given Him the fruit of His harvest
 1. That means that world evangelism is our responsibility
 2. It means that we are to evangelize all around us
 3. It means that we were not saved to sit, soak, and sour
 4. It means that we should be actively seeking to extend the kingdom of our God
 5. We should never take lightly this privilege and responsibility that we have of being the gospels stewards, administrators
 - 6.
2. The invitation is given and refused 2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, 3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.
- a. This story is to teach a lesson about the kingdom of heaven
- i. The Jews thought the kingdom of heaven was for them and only for them and those that would be willing to become Jewish-proselytes
 - ii. That means it is obvious that He, Jesus, is talking to them, the Jews
 - iii. The use of the term kingdom of heaven was often used as a substitute for kingdom of God because Jews were hesitant to use the name of God
 - iv. The kingdom of heaven speaks of salvation and God's redeemed people who have accepted His Lordship and trusted in His finished work on the cross
 - v. So the story we are reading is a message directed towards the Jews, God's people
- b. The servants have gone out to get everyone that received an invitation

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- i. His servants here are again the prophets and other men of God that had been sent to the Jews
 - ii. They had been told that the great marriage dinner was going to be held
 - iii. Now they are told it is time
 - iv. They knew that Jesus was coming from all the Scriptures
 - v. Now He is here John 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
- c. Those that were invited refused to come
- i. They had started refusing long before Jesus was here on earth
 - ii. They had refused the Old Testament prophets
 - iii. They had refused John the Baptist
- d. Now the servants go out for the last invitation 4 Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.
- i. The invitation was given in their culture
 - ii. Then when it was time the gates opened and the guests were invited in
 - iii. These guests are not at all ready to come
- e. The invited guests rejected the invitation totally
- i. The guests simply didn't see the importance of the wedding supper 5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise:
 1. They weren't necessarily wicked
 2. They were busy
 3. They felt like what they had to do took precedence over the king's invitation
 4. The crops needed tended to
 5. The business was important
 6. They just didn't think they had time for what the king wanted
 7. It is easy to let life take over real life
 - ii. Some of the guests were really wicked 6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.
 1. They mistreated the king's servants
 2. They even killed them
- f. The king reacted to their rejection 7 But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.
- i. They had rejected His invitation
 - ii. They had mistreated His messengers
 - iii. They had even killed them

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- iv. Now they suffer the consequences
- v. Remember this is a story about the kingdom of heaven
 - 1. It is really a story about how the Jews have rejected the gospel
 - 2. They have mistreated the prophets
 - 3. They have killed them
 - 4. They will kill Jesus Himself
 - 5. Judgment is coming both personally and nationally
- g. The prophesy fulfilled
 - i. God will not continue to deal with people. He may after a time quit dealing with you about your need of salvation Genesis 6:3 And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.
 - ii. In 70 a.d. the Roman general Titus conquered Jerusalem
 - iii. He killed over 1,000,000 Jews
 - iv. The Temple at Jerusalem was burned and destroyed
 - v.
- 3. The new invitation goes out 8 Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.
 - a. The king tells the servants that everything is ready and that the other guests were not worthy
 - i. No one is worthy of salvation
 - ii. But if you refuse the invitation then you are definitely not worthy
 - iii. You will have no excuse if you refuse His very kind and undeserved invitation
 - b. He sends His servants into the streets to get anybody who will respond 9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.
 - i. Before the invitation was to the Jews
 - ii. Now the church, the rag tag bunch of nothings will be invited and allowed to be God's servants
 - iii. Those who had no access to God now have full access
 - iv. This is the gospel invitation
 - v. This is the great commission Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.
 - c. They invite any and everyone, not just the select, special Jews 10 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.
 - i. Notice that all are invited

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- ii. It didn't matter the status in life
- iii. What made these worthy of their going to the feast was simply their responding to the invitation
- d. This invitation is to a feast, a wedding feast
 - i. It is an invitation to joy, laughter, sunshine, and happy fellowship
 - ii. When a person accepts Christ as their Savior they receive abundant life
John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.
 - iii. If you refuse the invitation you are refusing life
 - iv. If you refuse the invitation you are refusing a life of great joy
 - v. Satan would tell you that Christ brings bondage and takes away joy but that is the opposite of the truth
- 4. You can't come on your own terms 11 And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:
 - a. All were invited to come
 - i. The invited would be provided with a garment to wear
 - ii. This is the king's palace and His banquet
 - iii. He spared no expense
 - iv. One came in His own clothes
 - v. Maybe he was too busy to change and rushed in at the last minute
 - vi. Maybe He thought that his clothes were good enough
 - vii. Regardless if you are invited by the king to the palace maybe you would want to follow protocol
 - b. But you can't come any way you want Romans 10:3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth.
 - c. You must come in His righteousness not yours 12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.
 - i. Many people do good things
 - ii. They think that God is pleased with them
 - iii. But no one gets to heaven without going through Jesus John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
 - iv. Works will never get you there Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.
 - v. Your clothes, your works, your goodness will never look good on you

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- d. Many of the invited will still end up in Hell 13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.
 - i. If you come on your terms then you will come short Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
 - 1. Nothing you do will ever measure up
 - 2. If you started doing right and were perfect from here on out you would still have a past
 - 3. No one can get into Heaven just being themselves
 - ii. Many believe that they are alright with God but aren't Matthew 7:21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.
 - 1. These people were doing good things
 - 2. They felt good about where they were
 - 3. They however weren't do the will of the Father which is to love the Son
- e. The consequences of not coming to the banquet correctly were horrible 13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
 - i. The person would be not in the place of joy but of darkness
 - ii. They would not be in but on the outside
 - iii. There would be great weeping, crying
 - iv. People would be gritting their teeth in pain and agony
 - v. A joyful feast had been offered but many refused and suffered the consequences of their decision
- f. Many are invited but not all are saved 14 For many are called, but few are chosen.
 - i. The invitation is for all
 - ii. But the person must make a decision II Corinthians 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

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[Vision Baptist Church](#) is an independent Baptist church pastored by Austin Gardner. We are located in Alpharetta, GA, in the southern end of Forsyth County.

We are a missions minded church with a goal of fully honoring God and helping families draw closer to Him.

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