

The Parables Of Jesus

Lesson 18

The Parable Of The Wedding Feast (Mt. 22:1-14)

Where & When: Same as *The Parable Of The Two Sons* [see page 36]

Occasion Producing The Parable:

- Following *The Parable Of The Two Sons* (Mt. 21:28-32) and *The Parable Of The Landowner* (Mt. 21:33-44), the Jews fully understood they had been the "targets" of Jesus' pointed teaching (Mt. 21:45)
- Therefore, they sought to apprehend Jesus...however, they could not because He continued to be admired by the multitudes (Mt. 21:46)

Questions:

- 1) What is the occasion in the parable, and what provisions have been made? (vv. 2-3a)
- 2) How were these provisions received? (v. 3b) What was the king's 1st response? (v. 4)
- 3) Was the result any different? (vv. 5-6) [Note: "made light" (NKJV) or "paid no attention" (NASV) in v. 5 is the same word as "neglect" in Heb. 2:3] How might one be guilty of the same dangerous response today?
- 4) Would you say more was involved than folks just not wanting to attend a wedding feast? What is the point Jesus is powerfully making to the Jews?
- 5) What was the king's 2nd response? (v. 7) Who do you suppose was represented by the original list of invitees? Thought question: do you see a significant event foretold by this verse? (cp. Mt. 23:13-39)

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- 6) Now, what are the plans for the wedding feast? (vv. 8-10) Who is represented by this 2nd group of invitees? (cp. Acts 13:46)

- 7) Though the parable might seem to be heading to an expected "happy ending," how does Jesus add an unexpected twist to the story? (vv. 11-12)

- 8) Why was the king furious at this underdressed guest? What was the guest's reply? (cp. Rom. 1:20)

- 9) What did the king decree? (v. 13) Considering he was somewhat of a "last minute replacement," this might seem harsh. Explain why it is not.

- 10) What do you think the wedding clothes in v. 12 represents? (Rev. 19:7-8; Eph. 2:10)

- 11) What is emphasized about...
 - a) ...those first invited but who were unwilling?

 - b) ...the one later invited but who was cast out?

- 12) What is the final exhortation? (v. 14) What is the parable's main lesson?