

Matthew 22 - Sermon Notes - November 7, 2021

THE GATHERING STORM

- this is the final week of Jesus before His crucifixion
- He had presented himself to the nation on Sunday with the Triumphal entry, but was rejected
- upon entering the city of Jerusalem, He infuriated the religious folk by cleaning house in the Temple
- when challenged by the religious leaders about who gave Him the right or authority to do what He had done, Jesus responds by asking them about the ministry of John the Baptist
- they were unable to answer Him for fear of the people
 - like a lot of preachers today who will not stand up and tell the truth because of the fear they have of how their hearers will respond
- Jesus then tells three parables that the Jews understood to be about them
 - The Parable of the Two Sons
 - what kind of son or daughter are you?
 - The Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers

1. PARABLE OF THE WEDDING FEAST

(1-3) INVITATIONS SENT OUT

- Jesus is still in the Temple area, and again talks in this parable about how the Jews had hardened their heart to the One whom God had sent
- the ones who had been initially invited were the people of Israel, but they were not
 - the danger of being blinded by dead religion
- the Jewish people had been invited by the prophets
- as the wedding feast drew near, new servants are sent out, like the apostles, and the nation was not willing to respond

(4-7) TOO PREOCCUPIED TO RESPOND

- I love the persistency of God in sending other servants
 - possible the apostles on the day of Pentecost and then in the early chapters of Acts

- they responded by rejecting the invitation because they were too distracted by their own affairs
- remember what Jesus has said earlier in [Mark 4.19](#) - but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced. (NLT)

- seems to be the response of most people today when presented with the Gospel

- One day the King will respond to those who have rejected His invitation

(8-10) MANY RESPOND WHO WEREN'T ORGINALLY INVITED

- The meal is ready. The doors are open. Whosoever will, let him come" - The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." Let anyone who hears this say, "Come." Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life. ([Revelation 22:17](#)).
- bad and good – that's what you find in the church, bad and good.

(11-14) MANY ARE CALLED, FEW ARE CHOSEN

- what does it mean to be dressed properly?
 - [Isaiah 61.10](#) - I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks [himself] with ornaments, And as a bride adorns [herself] with her jewels.

2. CONFRONTATION WITH THE PHARISEES

(15-17) IS IT LAWFUL?

- the religious leaders were plotting and scheming on how they might trap Jesus by asking Him trick questions
 - always the question of legalism
- here people who disagreed significantly in their theology joined in the hatred for Jesus

(18-22) RENDER TRIBUTE TO CAESAR AND TO GOD

- we have certain responsibilities to the government
- but money isn't the only thing stamped with an an image
 - [Genesis 1.26-27](#) - Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His [own] image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
- we also have a responsibility to God who created us

3. CONFRONTATION WITH THE SADDUCEES

(23-28) WHAT ABOUT THE RESURRECTION?

(29) THE MISTAKE OF NOT KNOWING THE SCRIPTURES

(30-33) HAVE YOU NOT READ?

4. CONFRONTATION WITH THE SCRIBES

(34-36) WHAT IS THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

(37-40) SUMMARY OF THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS

5. JESUS POSES A QUESTION TO THE PHARISEES

(41-42) JESUS POSES A QUESTION TO THE PHARISEES

(43-45) THE PHARISEES UNABLE TO ANSWER