

Reflecting on “No Reservation— The Parable of the Wedding Feast” Matthew 22:1-14 | March 3, 2024

Introductory Points

- Matthew positions this story at the end of a series of parables that illustrate God’s authority and sovereignty even in the face of questions and rejection from people.
- The context of this specific parable points to the actual marriage supper of the Lamb in Revelation 19.
- From this parable, we learn that the kingdom of God is open to all who will come through Jesus Christ. At the same time, we are reminded of the consequences of those who reject Jesus as Lord.

1) **Read Matthew 21:23-27.** Why did the religious leaders question Jesus’ authority? What does their inability to answer Jesus’ question about John the Baptist reveal about their true motivation?

2) **Read Matthew 21:28-31 and Psalm 51:16-17.** What is the only right response to Jesus' authority over our lives?

3) **Read Matthew 22:1-10.** Which of the following words seem to best describe the king in this parable?

Generous Patient Angry

Jealous Just Hospitable

Based on **Revelation 19:1-9**, which of these adjectives are you comfortable applying to God as well? Does John's description of heaven encourage you to submit to God's authority? Explain your answer.

4) **Read Matthew 22:1-14.** Dr. Albert Mohler explains that the parable of the Wedding Feast teaches, “the kingdom of God is a kingdom of joy.” He adds, “The kingdom of heaven is marked by ... the peace that means the establishment of the benevolent rule of God.”

- In your understanding, how does living with Christ as your King lead to joy and peace?

- Why don't you think more people accept the invitation to enter God's kingdom?

5) **Read Matthew 22:11-14.** In this passage, Jesus describes the middle-eastern practice of wedding hosts providing garments for their guests. In other words, the only way a guest would not wear proper attire is because he deliberately chose not to. How does this context help us explain the fate of those who, like the guest in this parable, will be cast into "the outer darkness" where "there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth"?

6) **Read Matthew 22:8-10 and 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.** What does this parable teach believers about their role in the kingdom of heaven? How will you embrace your role as an ambassador of Christ this week?

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***Transforming Lives by the Power of
the Gospel for the Glory of God***

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Revelation 19:6-8

"Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure."

Welcome

Thank you for joining us this morning. Each week, we pray that God will transform lives by the power of the gospel for His glory. Whether you are a long-time member or first-time guest, a committed believer, or someone who questions Christianity, we want you to know you are welcome, and we pray you are blessed during your time with us. Please contact a pastor, greeter, or usher if we can assist you.

Monthly Memory Verses

John 11:25-26 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Celebrating the Resurrection

Make plans to celebrate the resurrection with us this year!
Our schedule for Easter weekend is as follows:

Good Friday Service (Friday, March 29, 6:30 PM)

Sonrise Service (Sunday, March 31, 8:30 AM)*

Resurrection Sunday Service (Sunday, March 31, 10:00 AM)

*A light breakfast will be served immediately after this service.

Calvary Calendar

Tonight AWANA, Youth Groups, Ladies' Bible Study (5:00 PM)
Mon, Mar 4 Men's Bible Study (5:30 PM)
Wed, Mar 6 Ladies' Bible Study (10:00 AM)
Sat, Mar 9 AWANA Grand Prix Workday (10:00-Noon)
Sun, Mar 10 Daylight Savings Begins (Set clocks ahead 1 hour)
Sat, Mar 23 AWANA Grand Prix (9:30 AM-Noon)

Order of Service

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Congregational Hymns

O Worship the King
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Offering

The Lord Almighty Reigns

Announcements

Scripture Reading

John 6:37-39

Congregational Hymns

What a Friend We Have in Jesus
Day By Day

Message*

"No Reservation: The Parable of the Wedding Feast"
Matthew 22:1-14

Pastor Jeremy Barbrow

Closing Hymn & Benediction

Let Your Kingdom Come

**Children ages 4-8 are dismissed to Children's Church*