Matthew 22:1-46

The text is too long to print here, so please read the appropriate passages, as needed, from your Bible.

THE KING & HIS KINGDOM



THE STORY OF JESUS

Haters, Doubters, Strugglers and LOVE Matthew 22:1-46

3/17/2019

WEDDING CRASHERS

- Jesus is telling the leaders that <u>REJECTIONS</u> of the invitations to the wedding brings <u>JUDGMENT</u>
- Only those who recognize their <u>PERSONAL HELPLESSNESS</u> and accept the <u>GRACE</u> of God will get in.
- The provision of the right kind of **<u>GARMENT</u>**, a right standing, a <u>**RIGHTEOUSNESS**</u> is required for the wedding.
- One of the things being highlighted in this parable is the <u>ACCOUNTABILITY</u> of everyone's <u>RESPONSE</u> to Jesus' <u>INVITATION</u> to the kingdom of heaven.

CAESAR'S CASINO

- Jesus has not come as a <u>MILITARY</u> or <u>POLITICAL</u> revolutionary against leaders of the world.
- Those who have responded to Jesus' invitation to become a <u>DISCIPLE</u> and live in his kingdom, will still have <u>OBLIGATIONS</u> to the governing authorities of the world.
- God as the creator of all people, of *you*, has sovereign <u>**RIGHT**</u> over all <u>CREATION</u> and everything in it.

MARRIAGE AND RESURRECTION

- The religious leaders did not know the <u>SCRIPTURE</u> or the <u>POWER</u> of <u>GOD</u>.
- The crowds were astonished, but <u>ASTONISHMENT</u> is not <u>FAITH</u>.

LOVE

- Love for God is not just <u>EMOTIONAL</u> attachment, but giving yourself to him with your <u>ENTIRE</u> person.
- On our own, we are **<u>ENEMIES</u>** of God and <u>**LOVERS**</u> of self.
- Christians aren't just <u>NICER</u> people; they are <u>NEW</u> people.

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GROWTH GROUP DIGGING DEEPER QUESTIONS

To catch the weekend message, go to the **MTC App**, or **MissionTrailsChurch.com**.

GETTING STARTED

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, inspired or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

2. Read Matthew 22:1-14

In this parable, Jesus is telling the religious leaders how they have responded to his invitations to trust God, and join the kingdom of heaven and follow him, and how he is inviting others (who they think are less reputable) to join him.

What do you learn from this parable about what the kingdom of heaven is like? What does it tell you about what is required to enter?

3. Read Matthew 22:15-22

"Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's" What does that mean in practical, everyday terms?

GETTING PERSONAL 4. Read Matthew 22:34-40 What do you think this "expert in the law" is really trying to ask? What do you think it means to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind"?

What do you think it means to "Love your neighbor as yourself"?

What are the hurdles and roadblocks in your life that keep you from doing these things?

BRINGING IT HOME

5. Chapter 22 of Matthew records four debates between Jesus and different religious leaders.

Why couldn't the Jewish leaders see the truth and receive it?

In what ways do *you* try to "trap Jesus", and get out from under his teaching and his leadership, and have difficulty in receiving the truth?

PRAY TOGETHER