

The King's Invitation
Matthew 22:1-14

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Invitations have the ability to fill us with both excitement and dread.
- B. There are some things we are happy to attend and yet, there are other events we would have rather not been invited to attend.
- C. Jesus is in the middle of a discourse with Jewish leaders (Matt. 21:23; 45). He is highlighting their stubbornness and rejection of Jesus as the Messiah.

THE INVITATION OF THE KING (Matthew 22:1-3a)

- A. Jesus paints a picture of the Kingdom of Heaven as a celebration like no other.
- B. The king sent his servants to call those who were invited (typically two invitations would be sent).
- C. It would have been a great honor to know that you were on the guest list.

THE REJECTION OF THE KING (Matthew 22:3b-6)

- A. This would have been shocking to the hearers. Royal invitation were rarely refused.
- B. Notice the ways the people rejected the invitation: some were indifferent & some became violent.
- C. This would have been insulting to the king. He had gone out of his way to invite the people and they continued to reject his invitation.

THE RESPONSE OF THE KING (Matthew 22:7-14)

- A. The king brought judgment upon the people for their rejection of Him.
- B. The king sent servants out to invite a new group of people to the feast, people who were both bad and good.
- C. The king threw out a man who was not wearing a wedding garment.

LESSONS FOR LIFE:

- A. Everyone is invited to be a part of God's Kingdom (Mt. 22:9-10; Acts 10:34-35).
- B. We must never lose sight of what is truly important (Mt. 22:4-5; Mt. 6:33; Acts 24:25; Mt. 16:26).
- C. If we are not at the feast, it is our own fault (Mt. 22:11-12; Rev. 16:15; Gal. 3:26-28; Mt. 7:21-23).

CONCLUSION:

- A. This morning we are invited to the feast of all feasts; a celebration that will never end (Rev. 19:9).
- B. However, we cannot come to the feast on our own terms. We must accept the invitation by putting Christ on and becoming a Christian and submitting to His will for our lives.
- C. All things are ready, come to feast.