The Parable Of The Wedding Feast
Matt. 22:1-14

Introduction:

A. This parable warns against rejecting the Lord's invitation.
      b. Jews rejected invitation. (v. 8).
      c. Invitation extended to others. (v. 9; 21:43).
   2. A warning to all of us: Do not reject the king's invitation.

B. This parable illustrates two important attributes of God: His goodness and wrath.
   1. Goodness seen in the King's gracious invitation to His son's wedding feast.
   2. Wrath seen in the King's righteous indignation at those abused the invitation.

Discussion:

I. The King's Invitation. (verses 2-4).
   A. It was an invitation to honor: A Royal Wedding.
      1. Opportunity have fellowship with Him. (cf. 1 John 1:1-4).
      2. Opportunity to be honored with His Son — joint heirs with Christ. (Rom. 8:17; 1 John 3:1-3).
   B. It was an invitation to abundance. (v.4).
      1. Think of preparation for such a feast — preparation for kingdom.
      2. Think of provisions for such a feast — Riches in Christ. (Eph. 1:7,8,18,3:8,16).
   C. It was an invitation to many. (v.10).
      2. Then to whole world. (Acts 1:8; Rom. 10:12,13; Matt. 28:18-20).

II. The King's Indignation. (verses 7,12,13)
   A. Toward the indifferent. (v.5 Ameleo=not care)
      1. Had not no interest in the wedding. (cf. 1 Cor. 2:13,14).
   B. Toward the abusive.
      1. These went beyond politely declining out of indifference.
      2. These heap abuse on those who delivered the invitation. (cf. Matt. 5:11-12; 10:17-22).
      3. These, along with indifferent, destroyed. (v. 7)
   C. Toward the backslider. (v. 11-13).
      1. He had accepted invitation and became a guest.
      2. He had insulted king by not wearing wedding garment.
         a. Such garments were given as gifts to guests. (See Barnes Notes)
         b. Appropriate spiritual clothing provided by the Lord to be worn by Christians.
            (1) Lord's standard of religion, rather than own.
            (2) Lord's standard of morals, rather than own.
            (3) Lord's standard of purity, rather than own.
            (4) Lord's standard of faithfulness, rather than own.
      3. He was cast into outer darkness. (cf. Heb. 10:26-29; Heb. 3:12)

Conclusion: Remember

A. You are invited to the King's table.
B. You are responding to the invitation in some way.
C. You are determining the king's reaction.
D. You can accept His invitation by obeying the gospel?