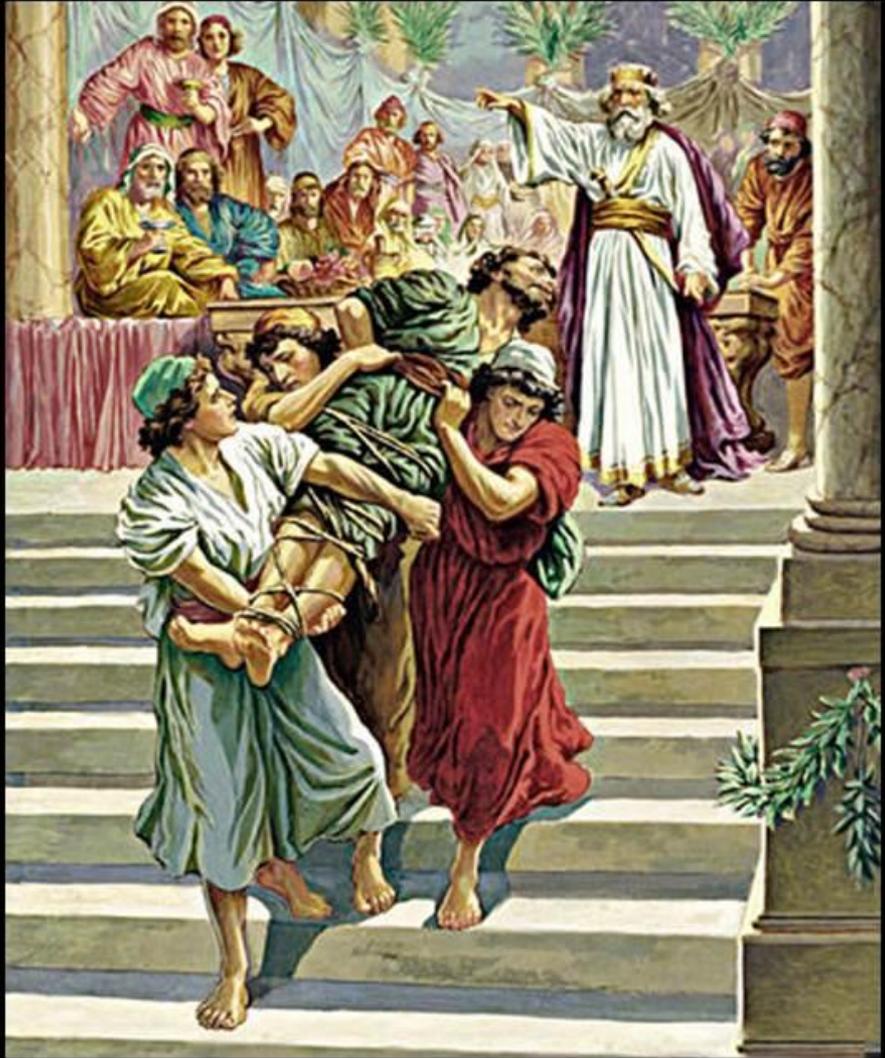


**The Parable
of the
Wedding
Feast
(Matthew 22)**



Background

- Note the reaction by some to the Parable of the Vinedressers in Matthew 21:45–46.
- “Wedding Feast” very similar to “Great Supper” (Luke 14:16–24), but some notable differences.
 - Not just a man giving a great supper, but a King.
 - Reaction this time, at least on the part of some, is much more hostile.
 - New guests invited in each parable, but this time the emphasis is on the preparation of these new guests.

Observations from the Text

- Most likely those first invited, those “not worthy,” represent the **Jews**, while those invited from the “highways” represent the **Gentiles**.
 - Acts 13:45–46.
 - Matthew 21:41–43.
 - The “new guests” might also represent classes of people despised by others. Matthew 21:31–32.

Observations from the Text

- The hostile reaction described in v. 6 was directed toward Jesus, and then His messengers throughout the Book of Acts (verbally abused, beaten, imprisoned, and yes, some even put to death).
- “He sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city” (22:7). Which city?
 - Jesus provides more detail in Matthew 24.

Practical Lessons

- Who turns down an invitation from the King— an invitation to a royal wedding, especially one that includes a royal feast?
 - Those who put their own interests ahead of his, those who think they know better than He does, those who love this present world, who think it's got more to offer than He does.

Practical Lessons

- This feast or dinner to which He invites us—what does it include?
 - Salvation, freedom from the shackles of sin, hope of eternal life, joy, peace, contentment, knowledge, wisdom, understanding, etc.
 - Amos 9:11–13
 - “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us” (Eph. 1:7–8).

Practical Lessons

- How shall we dress for this wedding (feast)?
 - “As many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Gal. 3:27).
 - “Washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb” (Rev. 7:14).
 - Rev. 3:4–5; 16:15; 19:8.

Practical Lessons

- Nothing but bad news for those who reject the good news.
 - “Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Matt. 22:13).
 - No escape. Eternity spent in the most awful place imaginable, suffering the worst kind of torment imaginable.
 - You have been **called**, but to be among the **chosen**, you must accept His invitation.