

The Confrontation—Part 4
“The Parable of the Marriage Feast”
Matthew 22:1-14

I. **Israel’s Tragic R_____ (vs. 1-7)**

- a. This is NOT the same Parable from Luke 14:16-24
- b. Jesus states up front this is about *the kingdom of heaven*, a subject that His audience would have recognized and on which He often spoke (cf. Ps. 45:1–17; Isa. 25:6; Matt. 8:11-12; 9:15; 25:10; Luke 13:29; 14:15; 22:16; Eph. 5:25–27; Rev. 19:17; 21:2, 9; 22:17)
- c. The Characters:
 - i. The *king* = God the Father
 - ii. The *son* = Jesus the Son
 - iii. *those who have been invited to the wedding feast* = the Jews
- d. Their First Response = *they were unwilling to come* (cf. Ex. 33:3; Deut. 9:13; Neh. 9:16; Acts 7:51)
- e. Their Second Response has 2 levels:
 - i. **I**_____ (cf. Matt. 11:21ff)
 - ii. **P**_____ (cf. Matt. 5:10-12; Acts 4:3; 9:2; 12:2, 4, 5:40; 7:51-53, 58; 12:2; 14:19; 16:23, 2 Cor. 11:23–25)
- f. The King’s Response = a foreshadowing of Israel’s Destruction in 70 A.D. by the Romans

II. **Israel’s Gracious R_____ (vs. 8-10)**

- a. The original guests were not worthy based on who they were or what they had done; it was because they rejected the king’s invitation!
- b. *Go therefore* = Similar language to the Great Commission = we maybe the king’s *slaves* sent into the world

c. **Eschatology?**

- i. I have a Dispensational view of Scripture, so I don’t believe in Replacement Theology = the church is the “new” Israel
- ii. But this Parable and the last one both indicate that in some way, the church does, at least temporarily replace Israel as God’s chosen people (cf. 1 Peter 2:9-10)
- iii. This must be understood with Paul’s teaching in Romans chapters 9, 10, 11 in mind (cf. Rom. 11:1-2, 11-12, 25-26a)

III. **Israel’s Missing R_____ (vs. 11-14)**

- a. Liberal Scholars assert that this is not part of Jesus’ original Parable but was added later by Redactors and Editors...
 - i. They are WRONG...this is the Inerrant, Infallible, and Totally Sufficient Word of God!
- b. Jesus’ audience would have assumed the king had provided the necessary *wedding clothes*, as per custom.
- c. What are the *wedding clothes*?
 - i. Jesus’ audience would have believed that it was the Righteousness of God (cf. Isa. 61:10; cf. Zeph. 1:7-8)
 - ii. John gives us that same imagery in Revelations (cf. Rev. 19:7-8)
 1. Christ’s Righteousness is imputed to every Believer at the moment of Confession, Repentance, and Faith
 2. It is implanted in our hearts and it manifests outwardly in “*the righteous acts of the saints*”

- d. *the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth* = hell (cf. Matt. 7:21-22)

IV. **Now What?**

- a. ¹⁴*For many are called, but few are chosen.*” (cf. Ezek. 33:11; Mark 1:15; Luke 13:24; John 6:44-65; Acts 3:16, 19; 20:21; Rom. 8:30; 1 Tim. 2:3-4; 2 Peter 3:9; Rev 22:17)