

Message Series: Secrets of the Heart
Today's Message: "The Properly Clothed Heart"
March 22, 2026

Matthew 22:1-14 (NIV) *"Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: 2 'The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. 3 He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. 4 Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.' 5 But they paid no attention and went off— one to his field, another to his business. 6 The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. 7 The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. 8 Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. 9 So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' 10 So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. 11 But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. 12 He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless. 13 Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 For many are invited, but few are chosen."*

A. The Setting of the Parable

A Royal Wedding Feast: The feast of a great _____.

Passion Week Outline – This is Tuesday

Question by Chief Priests and Elders – Matt 21:23 - "By what authority?"

Jesus responded by telling them three parables. Final words of Jesus (v. 43), *"Therefore, I tell you, that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit."* These were parables of _____.

B. Scene One – The Invitation Rejected (verses 1 – 7)

Parables are _____ or _____ with a spiritual truth.

The Kingdom of Heaven is the _____ of an _____, _____ God over all His universe.

Characters in the parable

The King: _____.

The Son: _____.

The Invited Guests: _____.

The Servants: _____.

Those who refused to come: _____.

Those who killed the servants: _____.

C. Scene 2 – New Guests Invited (verses 8 – 10)

The New Guests: _____.

The Invitation: _____ - the message of salvation offered to all, both _____ and _____.

D. Scene 3 – Improperly Dressed Guest (verses 11-14)

The Improperly Dressed Guest: Those who _____ with the invitation and _____ the banquet but fail to truly _____ through _____, _____, and _____ to Christ.

The Wedding Garment: _____.

Weeping and Gnashing of Teeth: God's final _____ of those who refuse _____.

Many are _____, but few are _____.

E. Final question of God: "Why should I let you into My Kingdom?"

Only three responses:

1. I am _____ enough.
2. _____ – I know my _____.
3. I am _____ clothed in the _____ of Christ.

Next Week: Psalm 131 "The Humble Heart"

