



Introduction: This parable is one of several that Jesus told immediately after His Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem. The religious leaders wanted to know by what authority He was teaching and doing miracles. The parable of the “Two Sons,” the “Wicked Vinedressers” (*Matt 21*) and the “Wedding Feast” (*Matt 22*) form a

three-fold response to the scribes and Pharisees.

The Invitation: The parable depicts a father hosting a wedding feast for his son. The father is God and the son is the Messiah. The parable spans the Old and New Testament times and looks forward to marriage supper of the Lamb.

A. The Invitation Rejected 22:1-6

1. The invitation is actually a ‘call’ for all those who were already invited to NOW come to the feast.
2. They were NOT willing to come. :3-6
3. The meaning of the parable:
 - a. **God’s call** on Israel is well established in the OT
Gen 12:2-3; Hos 11:1; Amo 3:2; Eze 16:4-14
 - b. **The slaves** who were sent were John the Baptist, Jesus, the apostles and prophets.

B. The Rejecters Punished 22:7-8

1. "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." Gen 6:3
2. Verse :7 took place in 70 a.d. when the Roman general Titus conquered Jerusalem.
3. This was NOT however the end of God’s love for Israel as His unique people. *Matt 23:37-39*

C. New Guests Invited 22:9-10

1. The Great Commission *Matt 28:19*
2. Fulfilled prophecy *Hos 2:23; 1:10; Rom 9:25-26; 11:1*
3. Both good and bad are called *1 Cor 6:9-10; 11*

D. An Intruder Expelled 22:11-14

1. This person was included in the invitation but somehow did not have any ‘wedding clothes.’
2. The king addressed him as ‘friend.’ The friend was accountable for the way he was dressed—he chose NOT to wear the proper clothes provided.
3. The proper wedding garment of a true believer is God-imputed righteousness, without which no one can enter or live in the kingdom. *Matt 5:20*
4. The only acceptable wedding garment is the genuine “sanctification without which no one will see the Lord” *Heb 12:14; Isa 61:10; Rev 3:5; 7:9-10; Psa 45:10-16*

Matthew 22:1-14

:1 And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said:

:2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,

:3 and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.

:4 Again, he sent out other servants, saying, "Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle *are* killed, and all things *are* ready. Come to the wedding."

:5 But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business.

:6 And the rest seized his servants, treated *them* spitefully, and killed *them*.

:7 But when the king heard *about it*, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

:8 Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy.

:9 Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.'

:10 So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding *hall* was filled with guests.

:11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment.

:12 So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.

:13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

:14 "For many are called, but few *are* chosen."