

The Parables of Jesus

Lesson Seven

- I. Matthew 24:1-3
 - a. The disciple's questions:
 - i. When will this happen?
 - ii. What will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?
 - b. The Jesus's answers:
 - i. Lots of unknowns but 2 specific certainties:
 1. It is a reality and inevitable.
 2. NO ONE knows when.
- II. Parable of the Ten Virgins
 - a. Parable Lessons:
 - i. The coming of Jesus cannot be delayed.
 - ii. Jesus will come without warning.
 - iii. Being prepared is not transferable.
 - iv. Lost opportunities cannot be regained.
 - v. Ultimately – If it is inevitable and unannounced, we MUST be prepared.
- III. Parable of the Sheep and Goats
 - a. Parable Lessons:
 - i. His return will bring about a judgment.
 1. For the “goats”, it will be devastating.
 - a. Virgins – left out
 - b. Talents – weeping and gnashing of teeth.
 - c. Goats – eternal punishment
 - ii. Kingdom dwellers' treatment of each other reflects their relationship to the King.

- iii. Ultimately – If it is inevitable and unannounced, we MUST remember that it permanent and severe.

IV. Parable of the Bags of Gold

a. Parable Lessons:

- i. The Kingdom is made up of people who have received a talent(s) from God.
 - 1. See 1 Corinthians 12:4-6
- ii. God looks for _____, not excuses.
- iii. Even though our “talents” may be different we all have the same _____.
 - 1. See 1 Peter 4:10-11
- iv. Ultimately – If it is inevitable and unannounced, we MUST make sure we use _____ the Holy Spirit has given us to make sure _____ are prepared for the permanently inevitable judgment to come.
 - 1. Are we _____ His Kingdom by ensuring others are ready for His return?

V. Parable of the Wedding Feast

a. The Players

- i. The king – God the Father
- ii. The son – Jesus, God the Son
- iii. The servants – the OT _____ and the NT _____ and _____.
- iv. Those invited – The _____
- v. The feast – The marriage supper of the Son to His bride – the church.

b. Matthew 22:1-3

- i. Even though the bride is not mentioned, we know it is referring to the _____ – the kingdom on earth.
 - 1. See 2 Corinthians 11:2 and Revelation 21:9

- ii. A general invitation was extended to the desired guest, but often without _____ .
 - 1. A fore-runner of our “save the Date.”
 - iii. As the day approached, an invitation announcing the specifics was provided, with a RSVP.
 - iv. In the parable, they responded that they _____ not come, not _____ not come.
 - v. Pre-Calvary, the _____ repeatedly “invited” Israel to be part of the true kingdom when the Messiah came.
 - 1. They did not listen.
 - vi. Jesus's ministry and that of his disciples was to the “lost sheep of Israel.”
 - 1. See Matthew 10:5-6, 15:21-28; John 1:11-12
 - vii. Post-Calvary, the Apostle and evangelists went first to the Jews.
- c. Matthew 22:4
- i. It is now time for the feast to begin as all the _____ are now complete.
 - 1. The sheer amount of food prepared (oxen, not just an ox and cattle, not just a cow) indicates the king anticipates a _____ crowd.
 - ii. A second invitation is now extended, expecting the invitees to have changed their mind and now be ready to attend.
- d. Matthew 22:5-6
- i. The unwilling guests are divided into two groups:
 - 1. Those more concerned with _____, material things.
 - a. Demonstrated their disdain by _____ the invitation

b. Jesus addresses these specifically in the similar parable found in Luke 14.

i. Next week

2. Those who demonstrated their true reasoning for refusing by violence – _____ of the Son.

a. They killed the prophets, the apostles, and even Jesus. All who “invited” them to experience God’s mercy and redemption.

i. See Acts 7:52-53

e. Matthew 22:7

i. The parable becomes _____.

1. Rome’s conquering of Jerusalem in AD 70.

f. Matthew 22:8-9

i. No one “_____” to receive an invitation.

1. See Romans 3:22-23

ii. Their _____ deemed them unworthy.

1. See Acts 13:46

iii. “anyone”

1. _____ of nationality, previous covenant, or morality.

2. See Colossians 3:11

g. Matthew 22:10

i. “good and bad”

1. Good – Nicodemus or Apollos

2. Bad – Saul or Simon the Sorcerer

3. Moral character is not a determining factor as to who _____ an invitation, but it is a factor as to who can _____.

h. Matthew 22:11-12

i. “not wearing wedding clothes”

1. Two possibilities:
 - a. Clothes of their _____, the guests should have changed into prior to coming.
 - b. Garments _____ by the host.
2. The last one serves the parable best.
 - a. It was the custom of the time for the host to _____ matching garments for his guests.
 - b. None of those who accepted the invitation could _____ such clothes nor went home to change.
 - c. If the guest couldn't afford appropriate attire, he would not have been made silent by the question but expressed his _____ to do so.
- ii. What are the appropriate "wedding garments?"
 1. See Isaiah 61:10; Galatians 3:26-27, Colossians 3:12; Revelation 19:7-8
- iii. _____ Himself and His imputed _____ that leads to _____ of righteousness, which occurs in our faith response in our baptism.
- i. Matthew 22:13
 - i. If the king was so willing to invite "any and everyone", why such a _____ and _____ response?
 1. The guest made the _____ decision not to wear the garments provided, but instead _____ his own efforts were sufficient.
 2. This is an _____ to God that we believe that we can save ourselves without need of the sacrifice of the Son.
- j. Matthew 22:14
 - i. "invited" and "chosen" are adjectives not verbs.
 1. Many invited ones but just a few choice ones.

2. See Acts 10:34-35

ii. The process of _____ to be chosen and NOT the _____ would be elected.

1. See Ephesians 1:4

iii. The predetermined condition was those who are “in Christ” because He was the _____ One.

1. See 1 Peter 2:4

iv. IF WE ARE “IN THE CHOSEN ONE” WE BECOME THE CHOICE ONES!!

v. Divine sovereignty and human responsibility are again finely balanced. Neither can be jettisoned at the expense of the other. Man’s behavior demonstrates he is not elect. Election does not violate free will nor occur irrespective of man’s conduct.”

k. Parables Lessons:

i. Entrance into the kingdom and its blessings is at God’s _____.

ii. It is an invitation we must _____.

iii. The kingdom experience is to be _____ one.

iv. No _____ as to whom to invite.

v. Being “in Christ” acts as the _____ of the invitation into the Kingdom.

vi. God’s desire is for a “_____” attendance.

1. See 2 Peter 3:9