

STUDY NOTES ON THE PARABLE OF THE MARRIAGE OF THE KING'S SON: -

- Jesus tells us a parable relating to the Kingdom of Heaven, concerning the marriage of a king's son. This has reference to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb outlined in the Book of Revelation.

Matthew 22:1 & 2: - "And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son."

Revelation 19:7 - 9: - "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God."

Christ is represented as being the Son - the Bridegroom, with the Church of Christ being the virgin who has been betrothed to Jesus.

Matthew 25:1: - "Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom."

2nd Corinthians 11:2: - "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present *you as* a chaste virgin to Christ."

- The parable is dealing with the last verse Jesus mentions in this parable - "**For many are called, but few *are* chosen.**" - VS. 14. Many are called or invited by the Gospel of Christ, but few will actually be saved.

The King sends out his servants to call those who have been invited to come to the wedding. But the invitees all make excuses, and will not come to the wedding.

Matthew 22:3 - 5: - "And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and *my* fatlings *are* killed, and all things *are* ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of *it*, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise."

- In Matthew 22:6 we read that "... **the remnant took his servants, and entreated *them* spitefully, and slew *them*.**"

The "remnant" - the "rest" or "remaining ones" mistreated and finally killed the King's servants who were sent to them to call them to the wedding feast.

These repeated calls represents the Gospel invitation being offered to the Jewish nation and people.

The Jews ultimately rejected the Gospel call preached by Christ and the prophets. Of course, they were the instigators of having Christ put to death by the Roman authorities.

Isaiah 1:21: - "How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers."

Isaiah 53:3: - "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were *our* faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not."

Psalms 81:11: - "But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me."

Matthew 23:34 - 38: - "Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and *some* of them ye shall kill and crucify; and *some* of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute *them* from city to city: That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar. Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy

children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.”

John 1:10 & 11: - “He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not.”

Acts 7:51 & 52: - “Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers *did*, so *do* ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which showed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers.”

Acts 13:45 – 47: - “But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming. Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles. For so hath the Lord commanded us, *saying*; I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.”

1st Thessalonians 2:14 – 16: - “For ye, brethren, became followers of the churches of God which in Judaea are in Christ Jesus: for ye also have suffered like things of your own countrymen, even as they *have* of the Jews: Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they please not God, and are contrary to all men: Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.”

- In Matthew 22:7 we read that “... when the king heard *thereof*, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.” This portrays God’s rejection of the Hebrew nation.

Luke 19:27: - “But those mine enemies, which would not that I should reign over them, bring hither, and slay *them* before me.”

Luke 19:41 – 44: - “And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things *which belong* unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes. For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side, and shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation.”

- The Scriptures have several choice passages dealing with our calling and being chosen by the Lord.

Proverbs 1:24 & 25: - “Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof.”

Isaiah 48:12: - “Hearken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called; I *am* he; I *am* the first, I also *am* the last.”

Jeremiah 35:17: - “Therefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will bring upon Judah and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the evil that I have pronounced against them: because I have spoken unto them, but they have not heard; and I have called unto them, but they have not answered.”

Matthew 20:16: - “So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.”

John 15:16 – 19: - “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. These things I command you, that ye love one another. If the world hate you, ye know

that it hated me before *it hated* you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.”

1st Corinthians 1:24: - “But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.”

1st Peter 2:9: - “But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”

2nd Peter 1:5 – 10: - “And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make *you that ye shall* neither *be* barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.”

Revelation 17:14: - “These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him *are* called, and chosen, and faithful.”

- After the King rejects those who had been called – invited to the marriage supper, the King instructed his servants to go out to the highways, and bring in as many as they can find, **because those first group of invitees were not worthy to attend the marriage supper.** This call must be the Gospel going to the Gentiles, and the servants are to bring in anyone who will respond to the Gospel invitation, whether good or bad.

Matthew 22:8 - 10: - “Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.”

Matthew 13:47 & 48: - “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away.”

Matthew 21:35 – 41: - “And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. And they caught him, and cast *him* out of the vineyard, and slew *him*. When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out *his* vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons.”

Matthew 21:43: - “Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.”

Mark 16:19 & 20: - “So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

Acts 13:46: - “Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.”

- After the wedding is filled with guests, the King comes in to see – to inspect the guests. He sees there a guest who doesn't have on the wedding garment. The King questions the unprepared guest, why he does not have the wedding garment on. The guest is completely speechless and has no defense to offer. The King commands the guest to be bound up, and cast into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Matthew 22:11 – 13: - “And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

- While the Gospel invitation is given to any one who will listen to it, the servants of God don't know who is good or bad, as referred to in the parable. It takes the King – a representation of God, to examine the guests to see who is fit to be in the wedding supper. This is because only the Lord knows the heart, and can see who is genuinely wearing Christ's robe of righteousness, and who is not wearing it.

1st Samuel 16:7: - “But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for *the LORD seeth* not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.”

1st Kings 8:39: - “Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, *even* thou only, knowest the hearts of all the children of men;)”

- This guest was completely speechless when questioned by the King as to why he was not wearing the wedding garment. No wicked person can give any kind of satisfactory answer to God.

1st Samuel 2:9: - “He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail.”

Job 9:2 & 3: - “I know *it is* so of a truth: but how should man be just with God? If he will contend with him, he cannot answer him one of a thousand.”

Psalms 107:42: - “The righteous shall see *it*, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth.”

Romans 3:19: - “Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.”

- The King's coming in to examine the guests, represents a process of examination of those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb. The guests have to be worthy to retain their place in the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Matthew 10:38: - “And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me.”

Luke 20:35: - “But they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry, nor are given in marriage.”

Luke 21:36: - “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”

Hebrews 2:3: - “How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *him*.”

1st Peter 4:18: - “And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?”

- While the Gospel call is given to anybody who will listen to it, and many will accept the invitation of Christ, it is NOT enough just to profess to accept the Gospel invitation. We need to have on the wedding garment, which is symbolic of Christ's spotless righteousness. Why? Because our own so called righteousness is as filthy rags. The wedding garment is pure white, and is the same garment worn by the inhabitants of heaven – worn by God Himself and the Holy Angels. In other words, we have to be clothed with Christ's white robe of righteousness, in this life, so we can be at home with God and the Holy Angels.

Job 29:14: - "I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment *was* as a robe and a diadem."

Psalms 132:9: - "Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness; and let thy saints shout for joy."

Isaiah 61:10: - "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *herself* with her jewels."

Isaiah 64:6: - "But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away."

Daniel 7:9: - "I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire."

Mark 16:5: - "And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted."

1st Peter 5:5: - "Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all *of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

Revelation 3:4 & 5: - "Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels."

Revelation 3:18: - "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see."

Revelation 4:4: - "And round about the throne *were* four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold."

Revelation 7:9, 13 & 14: - "After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; ... And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

Revelation 19:14: - "And the armies *which were* in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean."

- Let us wear the garments of Christ's spotless righteousness, and be found in Christ at His second coming without spot and blameless.

2nd Peter 3:14: - "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless."

- In the Parable of the Prodigal Son, the Father orders his repentant son who had left the pig sty, to be given a new beautiful robe. Obviously, the filthy garments which he was wearing in the other country, would have to be taken off, he would need to be washed, and **then** the new, clean best robe would be put on him.

Luke 15:22: - “But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put *it* on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on *his* feet.”

- The unworthy guest was cast into outer darkness, and there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Jesus used this distinctive expression in a number of other passages in the Gospels, associated with the wicked seeing what they have lost out on, that is, eternal life. They will see the righteous being rewarded with eternal life in the Kingdom of God, which will cause them to weep and gnash their teeth.

Matthew 8:11 & 12: - “And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Matthew 13:42, 49 & 50: - “And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. ... So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, and shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

Matthew 24:48 – 51: - “But and if that evil servant shall say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; And shall begin to smite *his* fellowservants, and to eat and drink with the drunken; The lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for *him*, and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint *him* his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Luke 13:26 – 28: - “Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you *yourselves* thrust out.”

- The fires of punishment in the Lake of Fire will end in the Second Death, with the wicked being burnt up as ashes.

Malachi 4:1 – 3: - “For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do *this*, saith the LORD of hosts.”

Revelation 21:8: - “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”