

9/22/24

Sermon – The Wedding Banquet (parables wk 11)

Scripture – Mathew 22:1-14, 2nd Cor 11:2 Ephesians 5:22, rev 19:7-9

Main Message – Many are called, but few are chosen. You can't show up without wedding clothes.

The situation in the world has not appreciably changed when it comes to revering our Father in Heaven. Every generation has those who seek him and those who won't. There are those who are passionate about the kingdom of heaven, and those who don't truly regard it. Even among those who tend to believe in God, the cares of the world take precedence in their lives. People manufacture excuses by the dozen. No excuses will be accepted. Now, people use excuses because they seek validation of their own theology. That won't work. God does not negotiate. He has his Holy Laws and his Grace and for believers, that is all we have.

You are all invited to the wedding banquet that Christ will have when he returns. That doesn't mean everyone will be there. You will have no success entering without meeting the proper dress code. There is a parable of the Wedding banquet that helps us to understand this situation more clearly. The bride of Christ is the church, which is made up of the saints, which are justified through faith and by the testimony of their good works. Read 2nd Cor 11:2 and Ephesians 5:22.

Read Mathew 22

So, after all that has been said, we must also pay special attention to this person sitting at the wedding without the proper clothes. Clearly, he wanted to be there, but he was not worthy. Let me give you some scripture to help clarify the situation.

Read Revelation 19:7-9

The man at the banquet was not clothed in any righteous acts. He was the guys who said, "Jesus save me, but never made him his Lord." This should be a very poignant message. When you truly believe, you are on a path to becoming a new creation. Here at the wedding feast, there will be no one that has not acted on their belief. In other words, let me remind you of what Jesus says in Mathew chapter 7.

Read Mathew 7:21-23

Those righteous acts come from a heart that is enslaved to Jesus. People can do righteous acts with the wrong intent, self serving if you will. They are not filled with the Holy Spirit, but with their own spirit. It may look "Moral" but has little to do with Christ in Spirit.

Meditate on this. It is a life changing message all need to hear.