



Thy Kingdom Come:

**CALLED TO THE
KINGDOM BUT
NOT CHOSEN**

Bishop Felton Hawkins



Matthew 22:1-14

1 And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said,

2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,

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- Jesus shares this parable with his disciples. Once again, these truths were not readily revealed to outsiders but only to his disciples.
 - Others of the religious sect were, many times, left to assume what Jesus meant by what he said, but Jesus would not give them the ability to trap him in his words.
 - The King, representing God, is ready to marry off his son to his bride. An invitation is sent out to those who seem to be preferred, in this case, the Jews.
 - As we can see in the text, the servants who were invited to the wedding would not come.

Matthew 22:1-14

3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

4 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.

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

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- The key words here are revealed in the word, that ‘they made light of it.’ They took it for granted and were not appreciative of the fact that they were invited to such an important event, the marriage banquet.
 - Even though Jesus was talking about the Jews, it is clear to see that history will repeat itself and human nature is the same repeatedly.
 - This parable uses the Jews to make the case for their rejection. It also shows us what happens to a people afforded the grace and mercy of God who take it for granted.
 - We should be careful that the church has not fallen into the same condition as the Jews who rejected Jesus and the invitation to reconciliation and redemption.

Romans 11:16-25

16 For if the firstfruit be holy, the lump is also holy: and if the root be holy, so are the branches.

17 And if some of the branches be broken off, and thou, being a wild olive tree, wert graffed in among them, and with them partakest of the root and fatness of the olive tree;

18 Boast not against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee.

19 Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be graffed in.

20 Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear:

21 For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee.

Romans 11:16-25

22 Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

23 And they also, if they abide not still in unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again.

24 For if thou wert cut out of the olive tree which is wild by nature, and wert grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree: how much more shall these, which be the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree?

25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

Matthew 22:1-14

6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.

7 But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

8 Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.

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- Think about it: what made these persons not worthy of redemption and reconciliation?
 - Was it the fact that they were flawed? Was it the fact that it was them who made mistakes? Was it the fact that they were still vulnerable to sin?
 - Absolutely not! It was that they were taking the grace and mercy of God for granted. It was the attitude in which they ignored the invitation because what they had going on was more important.
 - It was the pride and arrogance they displayed, the contempt they displayed towards God's compassion for them.

Matthew 22:1-14

9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.

10 So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

Notice that the king says go get the good and the bad, go get the good and the broken, go get the good and the addicted, go get the good and abused, go get the good and those who have been traumatized

11 And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:

12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.

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- One man failed to put on the wedding garment. He did not honor the fact that he had been invited to the wedding feast and he needed to at least put on the wedding garment.
 - Adam made this mistake by dressing himself in fig leaves and God had to dress him in animal skin.

Isaiah 61:1-3

1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.

Matthew 22:1-14

13 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.

14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

- Both Cain and Abel were called into worship but only Abel was CHOSEN.