

Bible Study February 25, 2026

Matthew 22: 1-14 The Parable of the Wedding Feast Consequences of Actions

This parable is found only here in Matthew and in Luke 14: 16-24. This parable has a setting of the entire community being invited to the wedding feast of the king's son. God has invited the world to have fellowship with Him through His chosen people Israel. Yet His own people have refused His gracious offer. In the real world of that day, it would have been dangerous to refuse the king's invitation, it could even lead to death. The king sent his troops and destroyed the murderers and burned their city. This could be an allusion to the forthcoming destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

The king then instructed his servants to go out into the streets and invite all to come. The wedding hall was then filled. In Luke's account, there is still room for more.

Matthew alone records the story of the man who came but had no wedding garments. In the OT narratives, there is evidence of a king supplying garments for his guests (Gen 45:22; Esther 6: 8-9; and providing beautiful garments for the people – Ezekiel 16: 10-13). Only Jesus imputes righteousness (Romans 3: 21-31; 4:22-25). The visible church and the invisible church – we see who is in the church, but only God sees their hearts. Judgement comes to all, but salvation only to those who trust Jesus. "For many are called, but few are chosen."

Matthew 22: 15-22 Paying Taxes to Caesar Found also in Mark 12:13-17 and Luke 20:20-26 Luke calls the antagonists "spies" while Matthew and Mark identify both the Pharisees and the Herodians as the antagonists. They all start with flattery – calling Him true, faithful teacher, impartial, and seek only to honor God. Then they seek to cause Him to stumble, to be caught off guard. "Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

An old attorney's trick is often used, "Do you still beat your wife?" If the defendant says "No" it implies he has beaten his wife in the past, or if "not anymore," he definitely did in the past. Jesus is not to be messed with. He

changes the scene by asking for a coin, a denarius. He also calls them hypocrites. "Whose likeness and inscription is this?"

"Caesar's." "Therefore, render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." They were amazed and marveled with Jesus.

Matthew 22: 23-33 Sadducees ask about the Resurrection

Found also in Mark 12:18-27 and Luke 20: 27-40 The Sadducees did not believe in the resurrection and asked a question to trip up Jesus. They ask, "In the resurrection, therefore, of the seven, whose wife will she be?" For the seven brothers had all been married to the woman (Dt. 25: 5-10). The Sadducees do not know the scriptures, for they do not teach the resurrection, and they do not know the power of God to create a perfect heaven that none, even us, could ever imagine. Jesus replies, "For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like angels in heaven." God will establish relationships even deeper than marriage, friendship as we know it, joy, and love in the life to come. Scripture tells us that the eternal glories awaiting the redeemed will be more splendid than anyone can begin to ask or think. Read 1 Cor. 2:9; Eph: 3:20-21.

"But as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has "prepared" for those who love Him.'"

"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."