

1. **Intro Story** about our Wedding Planning - Save the Date, Invitations, RSVP; Meal Planning
2. **Main Idea:** “Humanity is excluded from the kingdom of heaven as a result of their own wrong choices.”
3. **Text:** Matthew 22:1-14 - Parable of the Wedding Feast - Read from the Voice Bible paraphrase - Challenging Parable about the Kingdom and our ultimate environment.
 1. **Quote:** “Faith is imagination as it composes a felt image of an ultimate environment.” - James Fowler - Stages of Faith The Psychology of Human Development & the Quest for Meaning
4. Parable -
5. **Quote:** “The parable of the wedding garment opens before us a lesson of the highest consequence. By the marriage is represented the union of humanity with divinity; the wedding garment represents the character which all must possess who shall be accounted fit guests for the wedding.” - COL Pg. 307
6. **Concept:** Rejection of the Invitation brings shame upon the King who was celebrating His Son’s Marriage, the invitees “were not worthy”
 1. One to his own farm -
 2. One to his own business
 3. One Group seized and killed the messengers
 1. SDABC - “The king is anxious that the invited guests come to his feast. Though bitterly disappointed and greatly humiliated, he is willing to forgive their rudeness and to forget their insults. The fact that a little later he sent bands of soldiers out and “destroyed those murderers” (v. 7) indicates that he could have compelled those who were invited to attend the feast had he desired to do so. God might compel men to accept the gospel invitation, but He does not do so. Every man may accept or decline, according to his own choice.”
7. **Main Idea:** “Humanity is excluded from the kingdom of heaven as a result of their own wrong choices.”
 1. [vv. 8-9]: General call broadened to include Gentiles

1. Gospel Application -
 1. **What are the 3 aspects of the sin problem Jesus saves us from?**
 2. Legal Consequences Of Sin = DEATH Rom. 6:23
 3. Spiritual Consequences of Sin = SLAVE to Sin John 8:34
 4. Physical Consequences of Sin = PAIN & Evil Effects of Sin Gen 3:16-19
2. **Where have we come from?** A loving and powerful Creator
3. **Where are we going?** To live forever with Jesus, unless we persistently reject Him as our Savior and Lord
4. **Why are we here?** To live for Jesus by loving others as He has loved us.
5. **How did Jesus save everyone from the legal consequences of sin?**
 1. 2 Cor. 5:14
 2. Gal. 2:19-20
 3. Heb. 10:10
6. **How are believers being saved from spiritual consequences of sin?**
 1. Jn. 8:31-32; Rom. 8:2-4; Heb. 10:14 (KJV)
 1. “Jesus says that those who abide in His word will know the truth and the truth will set them free. They will experience freedom from guilt, shame, and condemnation. They will also experience freedom from slavery to sins such as pride, bitterness, hypocrisy, immorality and rebellion. They will begin to love others as Jesus has loved them.” - Clinton MeHarry
8. **Main Idea:** “Humanity is excluded from the kingdom of heaven as a result of their own wrong choices.”
 1. **How will believers be saved from physical consequences of sin?**
 1. 1 Cor. 15:52-53; Rev. 21:4-5, 27

2. God’s promises to those who trust Him -
3. 1 Thess. 5:-24; Eph. 5:25-27; Phil. 1:6; Jude 1:24
2. **What are we asked to do when we are convicted of sin and the truth?** 4 steps
 1. Believe the Truth - Acts 16:31
 2. Confession - 1 John 1:9
 3. Repent - Acts 3:19
 4. Renew the Mind - Rom. 12:1-2
3. “The lifestyle for the Christian is a continual process of following these four steps. As we believe, confess, and repent in response to the truth the Holy Spirit brings us, He will then be able to lead us into more truth. God will work only as fast as we are willing to give Him permission.” - MeHarry
2. Judgment **Concept** within the Parable [v. 10-13] - Wedding Hall Filled - “Obviously, the festive hall represents the church on earth, for there would not be “bad and good” in heaven.” - SDABC
 1. “By the King's examination of the guests at the feast is represented a work of judgment. The guests at the gospel feast are those who profess to serve God, those whose names are written in the book of life. But not all who profess to be Christians are true disciples.” - COL 309
9. **Main Idea:** “Humanity is excluded from the kingdom of heaven as a result of their own wrong choices.”
 1. **Application** - “By the marriage is represented the union of humanity with divinity; the wedding garment represents the character which all must possess who shall be accounted fit guests for the wedding.” - COL pg. 306
 2. “This robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has in it not one thread of human devising. Christ in His humanity wrought out a perfect character, and this character He offers to impart to us.” - COL 310
3. **SUMMARY** - God has ultimately redeemed us from the legal, spiritual & physical consequences of sin, our response should be to accept the character transformation He offers us.
 1. **Where have we come from?** A loving and powerful Creator
 2. **Where are we going?** To live forever with Jesus, unless we persistently reject Him as our Savior and Lord
 3. **Why are we here?** To live for Jesus by loving others as He has loved us.
4. **Appeal Text:** “Put on therefore, as God’s elect, holy and beloved, a heart of compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, longsuffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving each other, if any man have a complaint against any; even as the Lord forgave you, so also do ye:and above all these things [put on] love, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to the which also ye were called in one body; and be ye thankful.” Colossians 3:12-15