

"THE WEDDING FEAST"**Introduction**

1. This is a parable. Explain.
2. It is called – "The Marriage Feast"
3. Do not confuse it with "The Great Supper" in Luke 14

1. GOD'S GRACIOUS PURPOSE IN THIS WORLD

- 1) The great **Question**: Why did God create us all?
 - (i) "He needed us to love Him". No.
 - (ii) He was pleased to glorify Himself. Yes.
 - (iii) More particularly: A Bride for Christ.
- 2) All history is in preparation for the wedding:
 - (i) "A marriage for his son": Christ + the Church
 - (ii) Texts: Song of Solomon 2:17; Isaiah 54:5; Psalm 45:13f; Ephesians 5:23; Revelation 21:2; Hosea 2:19-20
- 3) These promises are for all believers – to give them comfort: See Ephesians 3:17-19
OBSERVE: God is a God of love + His ultimate purpose is to express His love to His people.

2. GOD HAS MADE A FULL + PERFECT PROVISION

- 1) "I have prepared my dinner...all things are ready." God has made the preparations.
ILLUSTRATION: a father of an honoured son
- 2) What preparations?
 - (i) The calling of Abraham
 - (ii) The election of Israel
 - (iii) The giving to us of a Bible
 - (iv) The prophecies re. Christ
 - (v) The life and ministry of Christ
 - (vi) Especially the Death of Christ

(vii) The Spirit's coming on us Gentiles**APPLICATION**: Do you see the Father's plan?**3. GOD GIVES INVITATION TO THE FEAST**

- 1) This comes by the preaching of the gospel
 "Whosoever will, let him come".
OBSERVE: It is freely offered to all who hear
- 2) So, God raises up preachers:
 - (i) They do not please themselves
 - (ii) Their task is to plead with men
 - (iii) Their message is one of great love
- 3) The way the message is received:
 - (i) v.3: "would not come"
 - (ii) v.5: "made light of it" (Other interests)
 - (iii) v.6: "entreated them spitefully..."
 - (iv) v.6: "slew them"!
OBSERVE: The ref. in v.7 is to AD70 – those who are now invited are Gentiles.

4. GOD WILL INSIST ON OUR WEARING THE WEDDING GARMENT

- 1) At v.11 we are taken to the end of the world when God will judge every man's faith.
- 2) One had not on the wedding garment:
 - (i) obviously offered by the King to each one
 - (ii) a symbol of Christ's righteousness
- 3) This shows our need of justification: texts which prove this.
- 4) The end is full of important teachings:
 - (i) nominal Christians will be "speechless"
 - (ii) eternal punishment is real

CONCLUSION

1. The gospel offer is free
2. But have you received it?
3. "many are called..."

PSALM

84: 1 – 5

36: 5 – 10

95: 6 – 11