

"THE MARRIAGE FEAST"**Introduction**

1. A parable of Christ
2. So true to life!
3. The world has not altered

1. THE PLAN OF GOD FOR THIS WORLD

- 1) This is the way to look at our world: v.2
- 2) The picture shows great truths to us
 - (i) God is a great King
OBSERVE: how much he is above all Kings – the accounts of Pharaoh / Nebuchadnezzar / Belshazzar / Herod, etc.
 - (ii) God has a special plan for his Son:
OBSERVE: Christ is in scripture said to be uniquely dear to God: texts to show this
 - (iii) The climax will be the wedding:
This is between Christ and His church.
- 3) How different from men's ideas in which the church is despised:
APPLICATION: Christ's wedding day draws near
ILLUSTRATION: Story of Lachlan MacKenzie

2. THE GOSPEL-MESSAGE- IS A WEDDING INVITATION

- 1) The invitation goes out by servants of the King (v.3).
They preach: "Come!" (v.4)
- 2) There are 2 phases of this call:
 - (i) OT period to Jews (v.7)
 - (ii) NT period to the Second Coming (v.8)
- 3) Many make an excuse:
 - (i) "made light of it": v.5
 - (ii) secular interests: v.5

(iii) violent treatment of God's servants: v.6

- 4) The punishment of the Jews: v.7
OBSERVE: See how truly a prophet Christ was.
- 5) The second phase = NT age, calling of the Gentiles: v.8-10
APPLICATION: The greatest honour possible to us is to be invited by God to this feast

3. ALL THE GUESTS WILL BE INSPECTED IN THE END

- 1) The reference is to the Law Judgement: v.10-11
- 2) The meaning of this Wedding Garment
- 3) Why he was "speechless":
 - (i) his own conscience now wakes up
 - (ii) he is self-condemned
 - (iii) his mouth is "stopped"
OBSERVE: Men's excuses now will be useless in the Last Judgement. See Matthew 7:22-23
- 4) The end of wicked men who do not believe the gospel: v.13
- 5) The final comment: v.14

CONCLUSION

Surely this has something to say to you if you have never come to faith in Christ. Has it not? But how happy believers are!

PSALM**145²: 13 - 19****45²: 6 – 11****45²: 14 -17**