

Don't Miss the Party

—Riddles from Q, Week 5—
Matthew 22:1-14//Luke 14:15-24 (NIV)

I. An _____ is extended to a _____

¹Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come,

¹⁵ When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, “Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.”

¹⁶ Jesus replied: “A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. ¹⁷ At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’

II. The original _____ decided not to _____

but they refused to come.

⁴“Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’

⁵“But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city

¹⁸ “But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, ‘I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.’

¹⁹ “Another said, ‘I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I’m on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.’

²⁰ “Still another said, ‘I just got married, so I can’t come.’

III. The _____ is now open to _____.

⁸“Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.’

²¹ “The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.’

If you would like to analyze these passages visually, you can: (1) put a box around material that is unique to either gospel; (2) Material that is shared exactly you can underline in both gospels; and (3) Material that is similar you can underline with a dotted line in both gospels.

IV. The _____ of the king have the task of _____ others to attend.

¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

²² "Sir," the servant said, "what you ordered has been done, but there is still room."

²³ "Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full.'

V. You cannot attend without the _____.

¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless.

¹³ "Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie his hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

¹⁴ "For many are invited, but few are chosen."

²⁴ I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet."

The Bottom Line:

We need to make sure that _____ and _____ do not miss out on the _____.

- By making sure that we are clothed in the _____.
- By working to _____ people with whom we have contact to accept _____.
- By supporting the work of _____ in introducing the lost to Christ.