

BUT THEY MADE LIGHT OF IT

Text: Matthew 22:5

INTRO: One key element in the art of living—a basic ingredient in wisdom, is learning to properly value the things between which we must choose.

Some things are lightly esteemed--& rightly so. Other things are highly valued—as well they should be. It is a mark of maturity, wisdom, & good judgment to properly value & relate to the alternatives we face day by day.

The word translated “made light of” simply means to esteem lightly, to be uncaring.

I. WHAT DID THEY MAKE LIGHT OF?

A. This parable compares Jesus’ invitation to the Jews to come into His kingdom to the invitation of a king to attend a royal wedding. READ VS. 1-6.

B. To have willingly accepted Christ’s invitation would have been to receive eternal life. JN 10:10; LK 19:10.

II. WHY DID THEY MAKE LIGHT OF IT? READ VS. 5. It was a matter of priority.

Luke 14:16-20, Then He said to him, "A certain man gave a great supper & invited many, & sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, 'Come, for all things are now ready.' But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, & I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.' Still another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.'

A. The RYR, Mark 10:22, possessions.

B. Many would not confess their faith, JN 12:42, social standing.

C. Family relationships, MT 10:37. Important, but not more important than our relationship with God.

III. WHAT WERE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR DECISION?

- A. Their not caring did not keep the wedding from going on. It simply kept them from benefiting from it.

Luke 14:24, For I say to you that none of those men who were invited shall taste of my supper.

- B. Rejection of the king's invitation brot about their own destruction. READ MT 22:7-10.

- C. This parable foretold the dest of Jeru which was fulfilled in 70 A.D.—but those who rejected Jesus will also face an even worse consequence.

Matt 8:11-12, And I say to you that many will come from east & west, & sit down with Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. But the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

IV. THE PARABLE FURTHER INDICATES THAT SOME WHO DO NOT TOTALLY REJECT CHRIST'S INVATION NEVERTHELESS ESTEEM IT TOO LIGHTLY TO ACCEPT THE RESP THAT COMES WITH ACCEPTING THE INVITATION. THIS, TOO IS A SERIOUS ERROR. **READ MATT 22:10-14.**

Jn 15:1-8, fruitless branches cut off & burned.

Matt 13:41-42, The Son of Man will send out His angels, & they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, & those who practice lawlessness, & will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

NOTE: The servant who didn't use his talent: (Matt 25:30) And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

NOTE: All judgment parables except the evil servant of MT 25:45-51 involve sins of omission rather than sins of commission.

Exton, PA, October 4, 1987

La Porte, TX, April 3, 1988 (meeting)

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, January 26, 1992

Pruitt & Lobit, Baytown, TX, July 26, 1992

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, February 8, 1998