

**Matthew 22:1-14**

**"Worthy in Jesus and Dressed Worthily by Jesus"**

*What does it mean that "many are called, but few are chosen"? Pastor leads his family in today's "Hopewell @Home" passage. In these fourteen verses, we learn that though many hear the gospel preached, no one is worthy of its blessings. Christ alone can be our worthiness. And, each one for whom He is our worthiness, also receives the blessing of being dressed worthily by Christ for that blessedness. Jesus earns our heaven for us. And Jesus outfits us for the heaven that He has earned for us. Anyone who is missing one of these is missing both of them, because both come in the same Christ in Whom the saved were chosen.*

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Matthew 22 verses 1 through 14, these are God's words and Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said. The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king arranged to marriage for his son. And sent out his servants to call all those who are invited to the wedding and they were not willing to come.

Get any sent out other servants saying tell those who are invited see. I have prepared my dinner my oxen and fatted cattle are killed and all things are ready come to the wedding. But they made light of it and went their ways one to zone farm another to his business and the rest seized his servants treated them spitefully and killed them.

When the king heard about it, he was furious and he sent out his armies destroyed those murderers and burned up their city. And he said to his servants the wedding is ready. But those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways and as many as you find invite to the wedding.

So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found both bad and good. And the wedding hole was filled with guests, but when the king came in to see the guests. He saw a man there, who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him friend.

How did you come in here without a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants find him hand and foot take him away and cast him into outer darkness, there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called. But few are chosen.

So far the reading of gods inspired. An errand to work. Yes, Victoria. Look.

Okay. Weeping imaginative teeth are doing it not because well, maybe a little bit because they're angry, but because they are in such great torment and pain. Okay, so. The passage begins with Jesus saying the kingdom of heaven is like, and then he tells the story about the certain king.

And the story is telling us something that the kingdom of heaven has like and then he. Ends with many are called but few are chosen. Many are called but few are chosen and we can see the many who are called as the calling is to be invited to the wedding.

Look at verse 3, he sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding. So many are called and if you were chosen is interesting when he says many are called if your chosen he's talking especially about those in the church, especially about those who hear the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the good news that Jesus God the son has come and become a man and that he has lived and obedient life in the place of sinners because they could not.

And that he has died in atoning death to pay for the sins of sinners because they could not and that he has risen again because his work was completed and those for whom he died those for

whom he lived and died had been made right with God. That good news is preached in the churches that good news is what Jesus was announcing about himself.

That was the kingdom that was coming. And yet there were those in the church in those days and there are those in the church in these days who here that call and are more interested in their earthly business. Than they are entrusting in the Lord Jesus Christ. More interested in their earthly business than in coming to the wedding and sitting with and having fellowship with the king.

More interested even in their earthly business than their blessing because after they are not willing to come verse 3, he sends his servants again telling what blessing is available if you come have fellowship with the king if you come be in covenant with the king. If you come belong to the king, he says my oxen and my fatted cattle are killed all things are ready.

And yet the more the king's servants call to them, the more irritated they get with the servants. And there are some places in which this irritation is just to treat the servant's spitefully the one who reaches the gospel's lifefully and it even happens and has happened throughout the history of the church that those who preach the gospel are killed for doing so by those to whom they preach.

And so many who hear the gospel. Are not worthy and they are not made worthy through faith in Christ, which is the only way we can be made worthy because look who ends up at the wedding the ones in the highways now in the highways would be the robbers the as Sophia would say the bad guys.

So he goes and he looks for he sends his servants to the bad guys and invites them why because the bad guys are worthy. Because the robbers and murderers are worthy. No but because his call and his invitation if it is responded to is your worthiness but not only do you need to be made worthy by faith in Jesus Christ and really made worthy by Christ in whom you believe but you also need to be dressed worthily, where do you think the garments came from?

Do you think as the servants went out into the highways they found these rough characters these burglars and murderers and robbers and so forth that those kinds of people had wedding garments appropriate for attending a royal wedding, of course not those had to be provided by the king those had to be taken from the king at the king's generosity and given even by the same servants who were doing the calling just so it is with us and our sanctification.

God calls us we believe in Jesus we respond to the gospel Jesus is our worthiness because no one is worthy to be admitted but then everyone who believes in Jesus and and comes properly to the wedding is going to be dressed worthily and we get that dress from the same king by the same means he uses his word to make us holy he uses his word to dress us up to clean us up and dress us up and make us fit for heaven preparing us.

For glory when it lasts we will be sinless and without blemish when we are there and there is no one that is properly among the saved there was one who thought he was among the saved but when it was discovered that he was not dressed worthy. It was discovered to him that he had not made been made worthy by faith to be there.

This too late when you leave this world to start to make progress and holiness. If you think you believe in Jesus, if you think you are one of the chosen and that you have been made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ, but you have never made any progress and holiness whatsoever.

Then you are self-deceived but God is not deceived. And the man could give no answer. And just as the first group who did not even care to think that they were invited or that they were seated at the wedding that the King's armies went out and destroyed them. So also this one who was self-deceived and thought that he was properly at the wedding even though he had not received any garment.

He was cast out into utter darkness. Sorry outer darkness where there is weeping and Victoria.

Never ever. Okay, weeping and nationality. And so there's a warning here that how do you know, you're chosen? Mothers do ways that you know your chosen one. As you believe in Jesus Christ and you are made right with God by faith and the other is you start to be dressed in the righteousness of Jesus, not just the righteousness that's counted for you but also the righteous acts of the saints.

We see that in Book of Revelation 19 where there have the white garment. Wedding garment and he says blast are those who invited who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb. And the white garments are the righteous actions of the Saints because God gives us both right standing only through what Jesus has done and he starts from the moment we believe and for the rest of our lives and then he finishes when we enter glory the work of dressing us for the marriage supper of the land.

Many are called but few are chosen do not think that just because you're a member of the church or even just because you're a member of our family or even just because you know lots of good doctors and that you can only be made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Do not assume that by your membership or by your knowledge that this shows that you are chosen that you are saved but cling to Christ that his righteousness would be counted for you. And that his righteous character would be put upon you and that you would grow and holiness and as you see these things and know that they can only have come from Jesus.

You will be more and more sure that you have Jesus Christ as you cling to him for your salvation. Let's pray. Our Father we thank you that you have granted unto us to be called. We pray Lord that your gospel would go out that many more would Paul be grieved.

For those who see the evidence of you and your righteousness your holiness your divinity your judgment in the creation and in your law written on their hearts, but who know not the gospel and never even hear the call. But Lord for us who hear the call Grant unto us to remember that what we need is not merely to be called but to have Christ Himself.

Christ in whom you have chosen those whom you are saving Christ who is righteousness and sacrifice are our right standing with you Christ who by His Spirit makes us to be more and more like Himself so that when we see Him we will be like Him for we will see Him as He is.

Help us we pray to purify ourselves even as He is pure. Grant that each of my children would cling to Jesus and not be satisfied to have been called not be satisfied to hear the gospel not. The fight to know some doctor, but that they would cling to Christ.

Grant this to me and to my wife as well. Glorify yourself by dressing us up for glory, we ask. Until we come and enjoy the marriage supper of the land. For we ask it in his name. Amen.