

Jesus Interacts with Religious Leaders of the Day

Matthew 22

Group ¹	C	V	Description
Parable of the Marriage Feast	22	1-10	Jesus teaches with the parable of the Marriage Feast
		11-14	The need for proper wedding clothes
Tribute to Caesar		15-22	Tribute to Caesar (see 17:24-27)
Jesus Answers the Sadducees		23-28	Jesus is questioned by the Sadducees about Heaven
		29-33	No marriages in heaven; God is God of the living
		34-40	Jesus is questioned by the Pharisees about the greatest commandment
		41-46	Jesus challenges the Pharisees about the traditional teaching of the Messiah

Reflections

In chapter 21, Jesus used the parable of the tenants to show that the Jewish religious leaders of the day were the tenants who killed the servants (prophets) that were sent by the owner (God) and then killed the son (Jesus) thinking that they would then be able to reap the reward of the inheritance. He then proceeded to use a well known verse in the Psalms 118 to show that He was the cornerstone who was being rejected. The Pharisees recognized that he was speaking about them and wanted to take Him then and kill Him but waited because the people saw Jesus as a prophet.

Now in chapter 22, Jesus uses another parable, The Wedding Feast, in which the people who were originally invited to take part in the wedding celebration refused to come for various reasons. So instead others are invited. This is to illustrate how the Jewish people refused to enter into the wedding celebration with God by choosing to do other things and so God would offer the invitation to others who weren't originally invited, i.e. the Gentiles.

Now there is a curious part of this story when the master of the wedding feast throw out some who don't have proper wedding clothes on while attending the feast. What might this mean? This is my opinion but I think that is what Jesus is referring to when He teaches with the parable of the separation the sheep and the goats in Matthew 25:31-46.

But what else should a Christian be clothed in? I did a quick search to see what that might be and found this.

Romans 13:8-14 NASB Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled *the* law. **9** For this, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET," and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." **10** Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of *the* law. **11** Do this, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. **12** The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. **13** Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. **14** But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

¹ (NASB) "Group" column from the headings in the NASB text.

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Galatians 3:27 NASB For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Ephesians 6:10-18 NASB Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. **11** Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. **12** For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*. **13** Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. **14** Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, **15** and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; **16** in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17** And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18** With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

Colossians 3:5-17 NASB Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry. **6** For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience, **7** and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them. **8** But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, *and* abusive speech from your mouth. **9** Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its *evil* practices, **10** and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him— **11** *a renewal* in which there is no *distinction between* Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all. **12** So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; **13** bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. **14** Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. **15** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. **16** Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **17** Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

1 Thessalonians 5:8 NASB But since we are of *the* day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the hope of salvation.

We are to put on the Christian armor to protect us as we go through life and we are to put on Christian attitudes displayed in actions to reflect our Savior and His love for us.

There and Then: Here and Now

Answer the questions below as you reflect on your own life and this part of our study²: *my LOG vs others SPECK. Here are some possible responses I've identified from the text that might apply to anyone.*

S - Are there *sins* for me to avoid or confess?

2 *Navigator Bible Study Handbook* (The Navigators), with additions & Matthew 7:1-5.

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- P - Are there *promises* from God for me to claim?
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- E - Are there *examples* for me to follow or avoid?
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- C - Are there *commands* for me to obey?
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- K - How has this passage increased my *knowledge* about God / Jesus / Holy Spirit?
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Key Words: New Testament, Gospels, Matthew, Jesus, Parables, Heaven, Taxes, Resurrection, Greatest Commandments, Son of God



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