

# WEDDING GARMENT

Heaven Isn't for Everyone

May 20, 2018

Introduction: What if you were invited to the wedding of the decade between Prince Harry and Meghan Markle yesterday. Would you have gone? Would you have bought a new outfit for that grand occasion? What if you were invited to the wedding of the Lamb – a union for all eternity. Would you go? All are invited. Many will refuse to put on the garment provided. Others will believe they have been invited but will be asked to leave. How does one know their name is listed in the wedding book? And, this is the question to which many struggles.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:1-14

## I. The Wedding

<sup>1</sup> *And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying,* <sup>2</sup> *"The kingdom of heaven may be **compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son** (Matthew 22:1–2).*

## II. The First Invitation

*"and **sent his servants to call those who were invited** to the wedding feast..."*  
(Matthew 22:3).

## III. The Second Invitation

<sup>3</sup> *"...but **they would not come.*** <sup>4</sup> *Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast."' "*<sup>5</sup> *But **they paid no attention** and went off, one to his farm, another to his business,* <sup>6</sup> *while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and **killed them**"* (Matthew 22:3–6).

A. They did not obey the King.

B. They refused to listen.

C. They killed the messengers.

<sup>29</sup> *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the monuments of the righteous,* <sup>30</sup> *saying, 'If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.'* <sup>31</sup> *Thus you witness against yourselves that **you are sons of those who murdered the prophets**"* (Matthew 23:29–31).

## IV. The Destruction

*"The king was angry, and he sent his troops and **destroyed those murderers and burned their city**"* (Matthew 22:7). (2 Chronicles 36:15–19)

## V. The Invitation

<sup>8</sup> “Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but **those invited were not worthy**. <sup>9</sup> Go therefore to the main roads and **invite to the wedding feast as many as you find**.’ <sup>10</sup> And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, **both bad and good**. So the wedding hall was filled with guests” (Matthew 22:8–10).

## VI. The Garmentless

<sup>11</sup> “But when the king came in to **look at the guests**, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. <sup>12</sup> And he said to him, ‘**Friend**, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And **he was speechless**. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth’” (Matthew 22:11–13).

*for all of you who were baptized into Christ have **clothed yourselves with Christ** (Galatians 3:27 NIV).*

*I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for **he has clothed me with the garments of salvation**; he has **covered me with the robe of righteousness**, as a bridegroom decks himself **like a priest** with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels (Isaiah 61:10).*

***I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe and a turban** (Job 29:14).*

*“Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and **cast him into the outer darkness**. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth’” (Matthew 22:13).*

## VII. The Garment

***“For many are called, but few are chosen”** (Matthew 22:14).*

*“They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are **called and chosen and faithful**” (Revelation 17:14).*

*Blessed are those **who wash their robes**, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates (Revelation 22:14).*

## VIII. The Marriage

<sup>6</sup> Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, “Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. <sup>7</sup> Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; <sup>8</sup> it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”— **for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints**. <sup>9</sup> And the angel said to me, “Write this: **Blessed are those who are invited to**

***the marriage supper of the Lamb.***” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God”  
(Revelation 19:6–9).

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- I. The Wedding (*Matthew 22:1–2*) (*Revelation 19:7*)
- II. The First Invitation (*Matthew 22:3*)
- III. The Second Invitation (*Matthew 22:3–6*)
  - A. They did not \_\_\_\_\_ the King.
  - B. They refused to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. They \_\_\_\_\_ the messengers. (*Matthew 23:29–31*)
- IV. The Destruction (*Matthew 22:7*) (*2 Chronicles 36:15–19*)
- V. The Invitation (*Matthew 22:8–10*)
- VI. The Garmentless (*Matthew 22:11–13*) (*Galatians 3:27 NIV*) (*Isaiah 61:10*) (*Job 29:14*) (*Matthew 22:13*)
- VII. The Garment (*Matthew 22:14*) (*Revelation 17:14*) (*Revelation 22:14*)
- VIII. The Marriage (*Revelation 19:6–9*)