

# The Chance to Live

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 22:1-14.

B. On the surface, the parable of the wedding feast is an invitation that we must accept, but there is a deeper meaning.

## II. Elements of the parable of the wedding feast.

A. Occasion: wedding feast.

1. These are joyful occasions.
2. This is the way that Jesus characterizes the invitation to the gospel (many receive it as if it was an invitation to a funeral).
3. The kingdom of God is life and vitality. (Romans 14:17)
4. God is inviting us to discover life.

B. The call: it is an invitation.

1. This recognizes the right of the one invited to reject the invitation.
2. Jesus did not grow angry at the rejection, but He sent other servants to plead.
3. Men were putting the ordinary matters of life before this invitation to discover the secret to life.
4. When men refuse this life, they deny essential elements of humanity.

C. The wedding crasher.

1. This is the picture of hidden rebellion.
2. There is an outward pretense of following the Lord, but this was not outward.
3. God looks to the heart to see whether a person has genuinely entered into new life.

## Application questions:

1. Why should the gospel be received with joy? Explain.

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2. How can the gospel be characterized as an invitation?

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3. Are you a wedding crasher or a wedding invite? What signs in your life demonstrate your claim?

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