

4. Read in the fourteenth chapter of Luke a similar parable about a supper.
5. Compare this with our lesson, and see how they agree and how they differ.

QUESTIONS FOR INTERMEDIATE SCHOLARS.

1. The Feast.

With what form of teaching did Jesus again instruct the people?

With what comparison did he begin?

For what purpose did the king send out his servants?

What response did those bidden make?

Who were then sent out?

What was their message?

What invitation carries with it blessedness? (GOLDEN TEXT.)

2. The Guests.

How was the second invitation received?

What excuses were made? Luke 14. 18-30.

Where did these people go?

What was done to the servants?

How was the king affected by this treatment?

How did he punish the murderers?

What then did he say to his servants?

Where did he bid them go?

Whom were they to invite to the wedding?

What was the result of this order?

Of what class were the guests? Luke 14. 21.

3. The Garment.

Who came in to see the guests?

Whom did the king find there?

What question did he ask the guest?

What was the man's reply?

What order was given to the servants?

What would they be in the outer darkness?

What was said about many and few?

What is the wedding garment? Rev. 19. 8.

Teachings of the Lesson.

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. That the gospel is an invitation to a marriage feast?

2. That all who will may come to the feast?

3. That the unworthy will be finally cast out?

Hints for Home Study.

Find to how many persons or things Jesus likened

"the kingdom of God."

Find other parables which show that bad people

sometimes find their way into the Church.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.

How did Jesus often speak to the people? In parables.

What is a parable? A story that makes clear and plain the truths of God.

What is the parable of this lesson? The story of the prince's wedding.

To what did Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven?

To a royal wedding-feast.

Who refused to come to the wedding? Those who were first invited.

How did they treat the king's servants who bade them come? With coldness and indifference.

What did some do? They persecuted them and killed them.

What did the king do when he heard of it? He destroyed them in his wrath.

What did he tell his servants? That those whom he had asked were not worthy.

What did he command them? To invite all they could find in the highways, both good and bad.

How did these receive the king's invitation? They accepted it, and came to the wedding.

Who came in to see the guests? The king.

Whom did he see at the table? A guest without the wedding-garment.

What was the wedding-garment? A dress given by the king to every guest.

What did the king ask this guest? "Friend, how camest thou in without the wedding-garment?"

What did he reply? He could give no excuse.

What did the king say to his servants? "Bind him, and cast him into outer darkness."

What did Jesus wish to show the Jews by this parable? How they had treated God's Son, whom he sent first to them.

What did he wish to teach the whole world? That every one is invited to be saved and taste the joys of heaven. (Repeat the Golden Text.)

What does he offer to all? The wedding-robe of righteousness.

What must we do with it? Put it on and wear it.

Words with Little People.

How would you treat the invitation of a real king, asking you to his son's wedding?

The King of kings invites you to the marriage feast of his Son.

He offers you a stainless and beautiful wedding garment to wear.

How have you received his invitation—the offer of his gift with coldness and contempt, or with joy and acceptance?

THE LESSON CATECHISM.

[For the entire school.]

1. Who were first told that the time had come for the marriage feast of the king's son? "Them that were bidden."

2. Whom did Christ mean to point out by this description? The Jews, God's chosen people.

3. How did the king treat their refusal to come, and their wicked violence? He utterly destroyed them all.

4. Who then received of his boundless bounty? All that could be found.

5. What was the only condition of their presence at the feast? Having on the wedding garment.

6. How does our Golden Text describe the condition of these guests of the king? "Blessed are they," etc.

ANALYTICAL AND BIBLICAL OUTLINE.

The Founder of the Feast.

I. HIS KINDNESS.

Sent... to call... bidden. v. 3.

"The marriage of the Lamb is come." Rev. 19. 7.

"Unto all people a feast." Isa. 25. 6.

II. HIS LONG-SUFFERING.

Sent forth other servants. v. 4.

"Not willing that any should perish." 2 Pet. 3. 9.

"All day... stretched forth my hands." Rom. 10. 21.

III. HIS WRATH.

He was wroth. v. 7.

"The wrath of God is revealed." Rom. 1. 18.

"Upon the children of disobedience." Eph. 5. 6.

IV. HIS GRACE.

As many as... And... bidden. v. 9.

"Whosoever will, let him take." Rev. 22. 17.

"Ho, every one that thirsteth." Isa. 55. 1.

V. HIS OMNISCIENCE.

Came in... saw a man. v. 11.

"I know my sheep." John 10. 14.

"He knoweth them that trust in him." Nah. 1. 7.

VI. HIS JUSTICE.

Bind him hand and foot. v. 13.

"Depart... ye that work iniquity." Matt. 7. 23.

"So shall it be at the end." Matt. 13. 49. 10.

THOUGHTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

The Gospel Invitation.

1. God invites men to share in the joys and privileges of the Gospel, a feast in which all may sit down to enjoy fellowship with himself, his Son, and the redeemed among men. How high the honor, and how rich the enjoyment!

2. Men fail to accept and heed the invitation of God. Some are busy and pass it by, some scorn it, some persecute its messengers; and only a few, apparently, avail themselves of its privileges.

3. God is very kind, and he repeats his call, pressing it upon men. But God is just, and his justice requires that wrath shall fall upon those who thus scorn and reject him. How fearful the responsibility upon those who will not come to Christ!

4. The Gospel invitation bids all to come as they are,

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