### Matthew

## Chapter 22

1Then Jesus gave them another parable. He said:  
  
 2‘The Kingdom of the heavens [or, of God] is like a man… A king, that arranged a wedding banquet for his son. 3And thereafter, he sent his slaves out to call all those whom he wished to invite.  
  
 ‘However, none of the people wanted to come.  
  
 4‘So then he sent other slaves, giving them these instructions:  
  
 ‘Tell those whom I invited that {Look!} the banquet is ready… Bulls and fattened animals have been slaughtered, and everything is prepared, so they should come to the feast!’  
  
 5‘However, none of them paid any attention. One went out to his field, another to his business, 6and the rest grabbed his slaves, abused them, and then killed them.  
  
 7‘Of course, this sent the king into a rage!  
  
 ‘So he sent his army to destroy those murderers and to burn their city.  
  
 8‘And after he did that, he said to his slaves:  
  
 ‘The marriage feast is indeed ready, but those whom I invited were unworthy. 9So, go out to the roads that lead into the city and invite everyone you can find to my wedding banquet!’  
  
 10‘Therefore, the slaves went out to the roads and they gathered everyone they could find (both the wicked and the good), and the banquet hall was soon filled with people reclining at the tables.  
  
 11‘But then, when the king came in to inspect the guests, he noticed a man who wasn’t properly dressed for a wedding celebration.  
  
 12‘So he asked him:  
  
 ‘How did you get in here [dressed like that]?’  
  
 ‘Well, the man was speechless.  
  
 13‘Then the king said to his servants:  
  
 ‘Tie him hand and foot and throw him into the darkness outside, where he can cry and grind his teeth!’  
  
 14‘For, many are called, but few are chosen.’  
  
  
  
15Well, after he said that, the Pharisees all went off and held a meeting [to discuss ways to] catch [Jesus] in something that he might say. 16So they sent some of their disciples along with some of the followers of Herod to ask him this:  
  
 ‘Teacher, we know that you tell the truth and what you teach about the way of God is right.  
  
 ‘We also know that you aren’t overly impressed by anyone, because you don’t look at what a person seems to be on the outside. 17So, tell us what you think:  
  
 ‘Is it right for us to pay Caesar’s head tax, or not?’  
  
18But Jesus (knowing their wickedness) said to them:  
  
 ‘Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? 19Show me the coin that you use to pay the head tax.’  
  
So they brought him a silver coin, 20and he asked them:  
  
 ‘Whose image and inscription is on this?’  
  
21And they replied:  
  
 ‘Caesar’s.’  
  
Then he said to them:  
  
 ‘Pay Caesar’s things to Caesar, but God’s things to God.’  
  
22Well when they heard that, they were bewildered. So they left him and went away.  
  
23Then on that same day, the SadDucees (who don’t believe in the resurrection) approached [Jesus] and asked him this:  
  
 24‘Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies without having children, his brother must take his woman and sire [children] for his brother.  
  
 25‘So now, let’s say there were seven brothers.  
  
 ‘The first one married and died without having [children], leaving his woman to his brother.  
  
 26‘Then the same thing happened to the second and to the third, until [she had gone] through all seven.  
  
 27‘Finally the woman died.  
  
 28‘So, to which of the seven will she be married in the resurrection, since they all had her?’  
  
29And Jesus replied:  
  
 ‘This is why you’re headed in the wrong direction… For you don’t understand the Scriptures or the power of God.  
  
 30‘In the resurrection, they won’t marry or be given in marriage, for they’ll be like the angels in the heavens.  
  
 31‘Also, haven’t you read what God told you about the resurrection of the dead [when he said]:  
  
 32‘I am the God of AbraHam, the God of IsaAc, and the God of Jacob?’  
  
 ‘He isn’t the God of the dead, but of the living!’  
  
33Well when the crowds heard that, they were amazed by his [way of] teaching.  
  
  
  
34Then after the Pharisees heard how he had muzzled the SadDucees, they all came up to him as a group. 35And one of them that was well-versed in the Law asked (to test him):  
  
 36‘Teacher, which is the greatest Commandment of the Law?’  
  
37And Jesus replied:  
  
 ‘You must love Jehovah your God with your whole heart, soul, and mind.’  
  
 38‘This is the first and the greatest Commandment.  
  
 39‘The second, which is like it, is this:  
  
 ‘You must love your neighbor as yourself.’  
  
 40‘These two commandments are the basis of the whole Law and all the [words of the] Prophets.’  
  
41Then as all the Pharisees were still there in front of him, Jesus asked them:  
  
 42‘What do you believe about the Anointed One… Whose son is he to be?’  
  
And they replied:  
  
 ‘David’s.’  
  
43So he said:  
  
 ‘Then why did David, through the Breath [of God], call him his Lord, when he said:  
  
 44‘Jehovah said this to my lord:  
  
 ‘Sit here at my right hand,  
 ‘Til I set your enemies as a stool for your feet?’  
 [Psalm 110:1]  
  
  
 45‘So if David called him ‘Lord,’ how could he be his son?’  
  
46Well, nobody was able to say even a word in reply, nor did anyone dare to ask him any more questions from that day on.