

## Sermon Notes: Sunday, October 15, 2023

### Matthew 22:1-14 “Indifference”

Our priorities in life dictate our choices and our choices determine much of the outcome of our lives. Because of Adam and Eve’s disobedience all of us are born separated from God.

But because God is love He did something about our situation and made it possible for us to find the way home. But we cannot find the way without Jesus Christ. (John 14:6)

(Proverbs 14:12; Deuteronomy 30:19) Choosing life is to choose Christ Jesus, believe in Him and become His disciple. Indifference to Christ is to choose death. (2 Peter 3:9) It demanded the death of His only Son Jesus Christ. His death paid the price for our sin, reconciled us to God and granted us access to our God — access to eternal life, joy, peace, abundance and fullness.

God’s invitation is to give us the opportunity to make the right choice and enjoy His presence and abundant provisions. Why would anyone refuse such an invitation? All that is required is our acceptance as we can do nothing to deserve or earn it.

**We cannot afford to reject this invitation** and miss the marriage celebration of Jesus Christ to His bride, the Church. Why would anyone refuse? What possible reasons could they have?

Could it be because of unbelief? Do they reject the truth of Scripture that Christ died on our behalf to pay the price for our sin? Or could it be that they have a false view of who God is? Throughout the ages we have always tried to mold and shape God to fit our idea of who we want Him to be.

We want God to meet our expectations so that we can dictate to Him and chose when to obey or ignore Him. Every day in some way we try to change God to make Him fit our desires. Every time we make God out to be who He is **not** we are also committing idolatry which leads to unbelief and rejection of the one true God. Jesus Christ did all that was necessary to gain for us eternal life. He declared it on the cross with these words “It is finished.”

He met every condition for our salvation yet many people today still feel that they have to do something to deserve it. If you feel you deserve God’s invitation becomes of something you had done, you

will also feel you have the right to reject it. Can this be why some people are too busy or simply indifferent to God?

There are also those who simply refuse to acknowledge God and His rule. They want to be in control of their lives, not be accountable to anyone and determine who is righteous or not. They are often very hostile in their rejection and are not prepared to hear anything about sin and repentance. They would even go to the extent of persecuting and killing those who dared to offer them such an invitation.

Incredibly, many people still refuse to accept God’s invitation today. The invitation to the celebration, in their view, was just not important enough. They had no idea of its eternal value.

When we accept God’s invitation, He gives us the appropriate clothing for the occasion. You cannot accept an invitation by the King and be without the appropriate clothing. This robe of righteousness is God’s own righteousness and is only given by Christ Himself.

Jesus is our righteousness. (Galatians 2:20) He died our death that we might have His life. The only way to obtain the robe of righteousness it is to confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead and you will be saved and clothed with Christ’s righteousness. (Romans 10:9) (2 Corinthians 5:21) The only thing that leaves us out is our own indifference and our own stubborn refusal to accept His invitation.

Accepting Christ’s invitation is to accept His terms. Jesus accepted the thief on the cross because the thief believed on Jesus as Savior and Lord. Jesus died to pay the penalty for our sin and rose from the dead so that we may be made right with God. We are the honored guests at His wedding celebration. The invitation is to each one of us.