

To Avoid The Ferret Error

Matthew 22



Sermon by: Rick Myatt

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Matthew 22:1-10

¹ Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴ "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

⁵ "But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸ "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad

Matthew 22:10-17

as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ *"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless.*

¹³ *"Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

¹⁴ *"For many are invited, but few are chosen."*

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words.

¹⁶ They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷ Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?"

Matthew 22:18-24

¹⁸ But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, *"You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me?"* ¹⁹ *Show me the coin used for paying the tax."* They brought him a denarius, ²⁰ and he asked them, *"Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"*

²¹ *"Caesar's,"* they replied.

Then he said to them, *"So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."*

²² When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

²³ That same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him with a question. ²⁴ *"Teacher,"* they said, *"Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for him."*

Matthew 22:25-33

²⁵ Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother. ²⁶ The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh. ²⁷ Finally, the woman died. ²⁸ Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?"

²⁹ Jesus replied, *"You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. ³⁰ At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven. ³¹ But about the resurrection of the dead—have you not read what God said to you, ³² 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living."*

³³ When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

Matthew 22:34-43

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

³⁷ Jesus replied: "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.*" ³⁸ *This is the first and greatest commandment.* ³⁹ *And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'* ⁴⁰ *All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*

⁴¹ While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, ⁴² "What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?"

"The son of David," they replied.

⁴³ He said to them, "*How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him 'Lord'? For he says,*

Matthew 22:44-46

⁴⁴ *"The Lord said to my Lord:
"Sit at my right hand
until I put your enemies
under your feet."*

⁴⁵ *If then David calls him 'Lord,' how can he be his son?"* ⁴⁶ No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Chapter overview

- Invitation And Selection Are Not The Same
- Give Caesar His Due
- Don't Try To Put God In Your Box
- Do What Matters
- Believe In Jesus

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵ Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Exodus 20:3

You shall have no other gods before me

John 14:15

If you love me, keep my commands.

John 3:16

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Implications

- The Way Of Christ Is Simple
- Love For God Can Grow
- There Is A Way To Love People