

“Many Are Called, Few Are Chosen”

In Matthew 22:1-14, Jesus spoke the parable of the wedding feast. When people rejected the invitation because of worthless excuses, the people in the highways were invited. When one came without preparation, he was cast into “*outer darkness*.” Jesus summed up the parable by saying, “*For many are called, but few are chosen*.” There are a lot of sad rejections of God’s word in the Bible. How did people turn away from the Lord? Consider these examples:

- Some manifested anger and hate (1 Kings 22:7-8; 2 Kings 5:9-11; Galatians 4:16).
- Some opposed the message (Acts 4:13-18; 13:6-8).
- Some were indifferent and ignored the message (Matthew 13:15; Hebrews 4:2).
- Some delayed after hearing the gospel (Acts 24:25).
- Some sadly declined the gospel (Matthew 19:22; Acts 26:28).
- Some gladly accepted the message (Acts 2:41; 8:39; 10:30-33; 17:10-12).

Although we would rejoice at your response to the truth, it is not our desire for you to make an uninformed decision (Luke 14:28). There are many important topics on which you need to decide:

- The church (Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 4:4-6).
- Baptism (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21).
- True worship (John 4:23-34).
- Marriage (Matthew 5:32; 19:3-9).
- Giving (1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8).
- Godliness (1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4).
- Faithfulness (Hebrews 10:25; 1 Corinthians 15:58).

God’s word will not be changed for you or me. You need to obediently respond (Matthew 7:21; Hebrews 5:8-9). “... *the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day*” (John 12:48).

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