

28 Parables of Jesus Are You Dressed Right?

Bible Sermon Study Notes: Pastor Cary Rodgers, Jr

COL Chapter 24 - "Without a Wedding Garment"

"My Spirit shall not strive with man forever." Genesis 6:3

Revelation 7:1-3

1 And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth, that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree.

2 And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea,

3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.

"We are living in the time of the end. The fast-fulfilling signs of the times declare that the coming of Christ is near at hand. The days in which we live are solemn and important. The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth. Plagues and judgments are already falling upon the despisers of the grace of God. The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude.

The agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones".—
Testimonies for the Church, vol. 9, p. 11.

"When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the state to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result." {GC 445.1}

We are still to give the warning call of the second ANGELS message that Babylon is fallen is fallen!!! Are we to keep silent even if Babylon wine is being served in the SDA church? NO God's people must be warned.

Dozens Of Members Of Congress Met With Religious Right Pastors To Drive Satan Out Of Power In The Capitol By [Kyle Mantyla](#) | December 5, 2016 12:38 pm

"Last week, conservative pastors gathered on Capitol Hill, where they joined dozens of members of Congress for a "[Congressional-Clergy Town Hall](#)" organized by Wallbuilders and the Jefferson Gathering.

Two of the pastors who participated in the event, [Dave Kistler](#) of the North Carolina Pastors Network and [Dale Walker](#) of the Tennessee Pastors Network, discussed their experiences on the American Pastors Network's "Stand in the Gap" radio program [last Friday](#).

Kistler revealed that [U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black](#) preached to participants and reportedly prophesied that a revival is about to sweep America and "it will commence ... in the halls of Congress" and Walker concurred.

"If God rules in the halls of legislation, it's the pulpit's benefit of being there, being on site and standing up and speaking the law of God to our elected leaders and praying for them," Walker said. "It's been the absence of the pulpits is the reason why Satan has ruled in the halls of legislation."

Kistler also revealed that in addition to praying in the [Kennedy Caucus Room](#) in the Capitol, pastors were given access to the U.S. Senate chamber by Rep. Louie Gohmert. In the senate chamber, he said, "we got on our

knees ... and it sounded almost like a labor room as people were crying out to God for the revival that Chaplain Black believes is coming and that we believe is coming.”

“To do that in the Senate chamber was an absolutely astounding opportunity,” Kistler said, “and again it puts an exclamation point on the Senate chaplain’s assessment that revival is on the way and may indeed begin in the halls of Congress.”

This is the same Barry Black who was a pastor of the SDA corp church for many years. Still preaches in many SDA churches today. He has joined the ranks of Babylon and serving Babylonian wine!

At a recent sermon at the Patmos SDA Church in Winter Park, FL – Mixing the profane with the message of the power of Jesus. Serving Babylonian wine. He compares Christian “power” to the power of a wizard – referring to Harry Potter!

44:12 December 31, 2016 [<http://www4.praisevision.com/component/joomtv/video.html?view=video&id=9108&Itemid=1134>] Barry Black, sermon “Empty Nets”

“We’re like Harry Potter we’ve got more power the we know.” Then jokes about it... “Don’t act like you don’t know what Harry Potter...” is. “You got more power then you realize.”

“As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren. When Sabbathkeepers are brought before the courts to answer for their faith, these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them, and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them.” {GC 608.2}

The Parable of the wedding garment - overview

“The parable of the wedding garment opens before us a lesson of the highest consequence. By the marriage is represented the union of humanity with divinity; the wedding garment represents the character which all must possess who shall be accounted fit guests for the wedding.” COL 307

What is the parable of the marriage and the wedding garment?

Matthew 22:1-14

- 1 And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said,
- 2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,
- 3 And sent forth his **servants** to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.
- 4 Again, he sent forth **other servants**, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and *my* fatlings *are* killed, and all things *are* ready: come unto the marriage.
- 5 But they made light of *it*, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise:
- 6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated *them* spitefully, and slew *them*.
- 7 But when the king heard *thereof*, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.
- 8 Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.
- 9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.
- 10 So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.
- 11 And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:
- 12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.
- 13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

14 For many are called, but few *are* chosen.

Remember the kingdom of heaven is a package of truth

First: (Spiritual) Kingdom of grace: accept the salvation of Jesus and live by it – this prepares us for the physical kingdom

Second: Physical kingdom of heaven – live with Jesus in a sinless society eternally.

In order to make it to the physical heavenly kingdom I first must be living in God's spiritual kingdom of grace by faith in Jesus Christ. That is now!

Who is the certain king and his son represent in this parable?

The king is God the Father and the son is no other than Jesus Christ.

John 3:16-17

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Who does the son's bride represent?

Ephesians 5:25-27

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

The bride of Jesus Christ is the true and holy church of Jesus. All who are members of this one true church are individually abiding in Christ and His word and Christ is abiding in them. They are righteous through Jesus Christ producing the fruits of Christ.

What promise does Jesus give His one true church, His bride?

John 14:1-3

1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there ye may be also*.

Revelation 22:3-5

3 And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

4 And they shall see his face; and his name *shall be* in their foreheads.

5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

Who were the first group that was invited to the wedding? The bidden

Who are the “bidden”?

Bidden (Greek) = kaleō

Thayer Definition:

1) to call

1a) to call aloud, utter in a loud voice

1b) to invite

2) **to call, i.e. to name, by name**

2a) to give a name to

2a1) to receive the name of, receive as a name

2a2) to give some name to one, call his name

2b) to be called, i.e. to bear a name or title (among men)

2c) **to salute one by name**

The “bidden” were called by name!

- In Matthew 22:3 the bidden were specific people that God already named, Israel.
- Israel (Hebrew) = God prevails or *he will rule as God*.
- The “bidden” had the privilege and light of the truth.
- Law and the testimonies of Jesus
- Advent message of the first and second coming of Jesus
- Seventh-day Sabbath keepers

Who did the king use to call the bidden? His servants

Who do the servants represent?

Joh 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed.**

Joh 15:8 **Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.**

Jas 1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Luke 12:42-43

42 And the Lord said, **Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom *his* lord shall make ruler over his household, to give *them* *their* portion of meat in due season?**

43 **Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.**

The true servants of God of the faithful people (ministers, teachers, evangelist, prophets, etc) of God throughout the OT, NT and today who are living by the word and sharing the word of truth without compromise. Men and women who speak the word of truth in love but does not excuse sin and call it out as a warning and plea for repentance.

Who is Jesus giving this parable to? Israel

Did you know that Jesus sums up three major generational periods in which Israel rejected the kingdom of heaven, the last one was a prophecy that they would soon reject and kill the servants?

First call in the parable:

Mat 22:3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

Israel especially during the period of the kings rejected the invitation to the kingdom of heaven – their nation fell! Eventually, before the time of Christ they were under the authority of Empire of Rome.

For example during the times of the kings the that servants that gave Israel the invitation of the “marriage” was

Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Micah, Malachi, and others that plead with Israel to repeat in turn from sin, but they continue to apostatize away from God's truth.

Second Call in parable:

Mat 22:4 Again, he sent forth **other servants**, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.

This call was to a generation in Israel about the soon coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ 's the first time.

Isaiah prophesied about it:

Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isa 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Daniel gives the prophetic timeline of the earthly ministry of the Messiah in Daniel 9:24 and 25. The wise-men of the East study it sought after the first coming of the Messiah, but Israel was not looking nor prepared.

John the Baptist - call them to repentance.

Matthew 3:1, 2

- 1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,
- 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Many made excuses and was caught up in their personal and business pursuits like the parable in Matthew 22:5 - **But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise**

Third Call in parable

Mat 22:6 And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.

Here Jesus was giving a prophecy to His listeners, Israelite church leaders what they will do. This third call was to the remnant, the remaining ones of the lineage of Abraham from the time of the Jesus earthly ministry and the raise of the Christian church of the New Testament.

As prophesied:

At the end of Jesus ministry what did Israel do to Jesus? Rejected Him and entreated Him spitefully and killed Him! What did the remnant of Israel do to the servants of Jesus during the raise of the church in the New Testament? Israel "entreated them spitefully, and slew them."

How long did God give Israel to make and end of sin and repent according to Daniel's prophetic timeline in Daniel 9:24, 25? 490 years starting from the rebuilding of Jerusalem

How many more years did they have left from the beginning of Jesus ministry? Only seven years!

What did they do only 3 1/2 years of the ministry of Jesus Christ? Killed him!

What did they do 3 1/2 years after they killed Jesus? Stoned Stephen.... Totally rejected the TRUTH!

After the last plea to the remnant, what did the king in the parable do?

Mat 22:7 But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

In the parable Jesus was prophesying Israel fate for rejecting the truth and killing those to gave the truth of

Jesus Christ!

Before Jesus was crucified what did he prophesy would happen to the people of Israel and Jerusalem in Matthew 24:2? Not one stone would be left upon another.... Prophecy that they would be destroyed and scattered as a result of their final rejection to the third call!

Prophecy fulfilled in 70 AD. Destroyed by Rome. Many lost their lives and scattered all over the earth!

After the bidden rejects the wedding invitation who did the king tell his servants to invite to the wedding?

9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.

10 So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

Even though there were Jews who accepted the message of Christ, through conversion and ministry of Paul Jesus called his servants to give the invitation not only to the Jews but also the Gentiles!

Today the call is still the same.

Mat 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Mat 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

In the last part of the parable Jesus gets extremely personal. Even though the invitation to the wedding is to all, He reveals that WE ALL MUST BE DRESSED RIGHT individually to be in the wedding. In other words, our characters must have on the character of groom, Jesus Christ at the time of the wedding.

In the parable who was kicked out of the wedding because he was NOT dressed right?

Matthew 22:11-13

11 And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:
12 And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.

13 Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

How to dress for a royal earthly wedding? For example Prince William and Katie Middleton. All who were invited to the wedding had to dress by the dress code. They had to have on the right clothes. If not they were not able to get in.

The guest who did not have the right garment on not because he did not know the dress code, he thought he dress was go enough.

What does the wedding garment represent?

Rev 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

Rev 19:8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

Righteousness is Biblical legal term – no longer guilty, just and LAWFUL. The righteous keeps the commandments of God.

Who dresses the saints with righteousness?

Ephesians 4:22-24

22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Romans 5:17-19

17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

2 Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

"Only the covering which Christ Himself has provided can make us meet to appear in God's presence. This covering, the robe of His own righteousness, Christ will put upon every repenting, believing soul. "I counsel thee," He says, "to buy of Me . . . white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear." Revelation 3:18.

This robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has in it not one thread of human devising. Christ in His humanity wrought out a perfect character, and this character He offers to impart to us. "All our righteousness are as filthy rags." Isaiah 64:6. Everything that we of ourselves can do is defiled by sin. But the Son of God "was manifested to take away our sins; and in Him is no sin." {COL 3:11.3}

What was the guest without the wedding garment main problem and all those who are NOT dressed right at the end of time?

Rom 10:3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

Who will be in the wedding, the second coming of Jesus?

Psa 37:29 The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.

Who will not be in the wedding?

1 Corinthians 6:9-10

9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

Kingdom of God is about righteous!

Rom 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

What should you seek to put on more than anything else in this world?

Mat 5:6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Mat_6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

How can you remain righteous?

Romans 6:13-19

13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

“Righteousness is right doing, and it is by their deeds that all will be judged. Our characters are revealed by what we do. The works show whether the faith is genuine.

It is not enough for us to believe that Jesus is not an impostor, and that the religion of the Bible is no cunningly devised fable. We may believe that the name of Jesus is the only name under heaven whereby man may be saved, and yet we may not through faith make Him our personal Saviour. It is not enough to believe the theory of truth. It is not enough to make a profession of faith in Christ and have our names registered on the church roll. "He that keepeth His commandments dwelleth in Him, and He in him. And hereby we know that He abideth in us, the Spirit which He hath given us." "Hereby we do know that we know Him if we keep His commandments." 1 John 3:24; 2:3. This is the genuine evidence of conversion. Whatever our profession, it amounts to nothing unless Christ is revealed in works of righteousness. COL 312.2}

John the Baptist – message of repentance “FRUIT of REPENTANCE”

Luk 3:8 Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

At the end of the Jesus parable what does Jesus say?

Mat 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen.

Many are bidden but few respond and are dress right to be chosen!

But while God can be just, and yet justify the sinner through the merits of Christ, no man can cover his soul with the garments of Christ's righteousness while practicing known sins, or neglecting known duties. God requires the entire surrender of the heart, before justification can take place; and in order for man to retain justification, there must be continual obedience, through active, living faith that works by love and purifies the soul. {RH, November 4, 1890 par. 4}

There will be no future probation in which to prepare for eternity. It is in this life that we are to put on the robe of Christ's righteousness. This is our only opportunity to form characters for the home which Christ has made ready for those who obey His commandments. {COL 319.1}

The days of our probation are fast closing. The end is near. To us the warning is given, "Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares." Luke 21:34. Beware lest it find you unready. Take heed lest you be found at the King's feast without a wedding garment. {COL 319.2}

"In such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." "Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame." Matthew 24:44; Revelation 16:15. {COL 319.3}

Final Thoughts and Appeal

Jesus promises that there will be a marriage, but before the a marriage first their must be a courtship and engagement. Have you courted Jesus? Are you engaged to Him? Is your character ready for the marriage?