

"CALLED AND CHOSEN"

Matthew 22:14

Matthew 22:14 *"For many are called, but few are chosen."*

I. THE KING IS CALLING

A. The context of the text: A wedding feast of the King

1. Ancient times: *Kings had power over people's lives – they ruled*
 - a. **V1** *The Kingdom of Heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding feast...*
2. The King sent out invitations: **V3** *those who were invited...*
 - a. The King had a plan for the people's lives: *He had the right to ask them to do his will*
3. This is true for us: **Matthew 22:14** *For many are called...*
 - a. Called: Invited to a purpose b. Every person should be doing God's will – in a local church
 - c. But some are called to preach: *That is their life-long purpose*
 1. **Mark 1:17** *Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men."*
 - d. Your life can make impact on people: In this life – and for eternity
 1. *Your life can be bigger than fish/\$/possessions/awards!*
4. Being called to the wedding of the King's son was an incredible privilege: *Can't take it lightly*

II. RESPONDING TO CALLING

A. But calling is not automatic! **Matthew 22:14** *"For many are called, but few are chosen."*

1. **1st part of responding - You have to be willing to answer the call: V3** *they refused to come*
 - a. **Matthew 22:5** ⁵*But the guests he had invited ignored them and went their own way, one to his farm, another to his business.*
 1. They had other plans! Farm: *Comfort/family/identity* Business: *Money*
 - b. In order to answer the call – you have to change your plans
 1. **Mark 1:18** *And they left their nets at once and followed him. What are your nets?*
2. **2nd part of responding – you have to get ready for the call: Matthew 22:11-12**
 - a. Ancient weddings: Your clothes were provided – you took off what you had & wore what provided
 - b. Calling is potential of what you can do for God: *But you're not ready yet!*
 1. Fruitfulness/people skills/supernatural dimension/money dominion/prayer/word of God
 - a. *What are you doing to get ready?* b. *What has changed in the last 6 months/1 year?*
 - c. Your actions show what you think of your calling – what you think of the King!
 1. **Matthew 22:13** Simple point: *It is not ok with God to have disdain for your calling*
3. Sad fact: **Matthew 22:14** *"For many are called, but few are chosen."*
 - a. So many could have had a destiny/impact/fruitfulness – but they are never chosen

III. BEING CHOSEN

A. Our text gives the wonderful possibility in life: **Being chosen Matthew 22:14** *few are chosen."*

1. **Chosen has the idea of being choice/eminant – standing out**
 - a. Cream rises! What people are doing in private becomes apparent to others/the Pastors
 1. Acts 6 choose out 7 men of honest report/full of HS: *They had no problem identifying!*
 - b. If you will be willing and prepare privately – God knows, and He knows how to find you
 2. **Chosen has the idea of being selected: You can do what you were invited/called to do**
 - a. When calling meets willingness and preparation: *The result is being chosen*
- B. 3 results of being chosen
1. **The King will provide what you need for your purpose:** You're nervous – I can't!
 - a. **1 Thessalonians 5:24** *He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.*
 2. **You please the King who called you:** Your life pleases God – you bring glory to God
 3. **You will impact people's lives in other cities and nations**
 - a. **God knows where you will preach:** *I drove over the hill into Launceston – planned by God! Joburg!*
 - b. **God knows who you will reach:** God knows the names of the people you will reach one day
 1. They are waiting for you! 2. Jews in Egypt had no idea their lives determined by Moses