

“WILL BELIEVERS BE CAST OUT INTO OUTER DARKNESS?” (Matthew 22:1-14)

- I. WHAT IS THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST?
- II. IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SALVATION & REWARDS?
- III. WHAT ARE GOD’S PURPOSES FOR THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST?
- IV. WHAT ARE GOD’S CRITERIA FOR GRANTING REWARDS?
- V. WHAT REWARDS WILL BE GIVEN AT THE JUDGMENT SEAT?
- VI. WILL THE JUDGMENT SEAT INVOLVE COMMENDATION OR CONDEMNATION?
- VII. HOW DO THE ATHLETIC ANALOGIES RELATE TO REWARDS?
- VIII. IS INHERITANCE WITH CHRIST A REWARD?
- IX. WILL BELIEVERS BE CAST INTO OUTER DARKNESS?

A. The VARYING VIEWS on Matthew 22:1-14

1. This passage has traditionally been interpreted by evangelical, Bible-believers as teaching that God must clothe us with the _____ of _____ received by faith in order to enter the kingdom of heaven.

2. In the last century 150 years, some evangelicals have begun teaching that the garment represents a righteousness based on the believer’s _____ and that a _____, unproductive Christian will be cast into outer darkness at the Bema.

** How does this rewards-view of Matthew 22 use Rev. 19:7-9 to make its point?*

B. Discerning the CORRECT INTERPRETATION of Matthew 22:1-14

1. In the context of the passage, Christ is contending with the _____ religious leaders of _____. (v. 1)

** How is this demonstrated in Matthew 21-23?*

** Why is this significant?*

2. The parable is addressing Israel’s _____ of God’s Word as delivered through the _____ and _____. (vv. 2-9)

** What time span and group of people is Christ addressing here?*

3. The proper wedding garment is best interpreted as God's _____
_____ received at the moment of justification. (vv. 9-12)

** What is this and how does one receive it?*

** How is this seen in the context of Matthew 21-22 and elsewhere in Matthew's Gospel?*

** Doesn't Christ's address of "Friend" in v. 12 mean this was a justified believer?*

4. To be cast into outer darkness is a consequence describing _____
_____. (v. 13)

** How is this phrase used elsewhere in Matthew and Luke?*

** Does "darkness" adequately describe the destiny of a believer in Christ?*

** Does such treatment fit with a believer who has been glorified following the Bema?*

** What does the phrase "weeping and gnashing of teeth" signify?*

** Will there be weeping "in" the kingdom among the saved according to Isa. 25:6-10?*

** What can you learn from all of this?*