

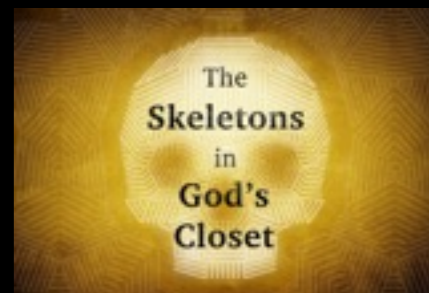
The
Skeletons
in
God's
Closet

Judgement:

Are Christians the only ones
safe? Matt 22

Jesus' Parables

- When reading parables its important to ask yourself the following questions:
- When was this parable spoken?
 - Time, Season, Event
- Where was it spoken?
 - Location
- Who was listening?
 - To whom or about whom was it spoken



The Wedding Banquet

- When was this parable spoken?
 - After Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem
 - Just before the Passover celebration
- Where was it spoken?
 - Jerusalem, specifically in the temple courts
- Who was listening?
 - Jesus was teaching in the temple so common people had gathered to listen to him. In addition, the chief priests and elders of the people were there. Matt 21:23



The Wedding Banquet

- Who or what is the parable about?
- Judgment and who will be invited into the Kingdom of God



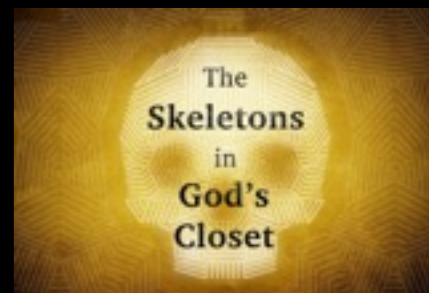
The Wedding Banquet

- A king is hosting a wedding for his son.
- A wedding is perhaps the most important social event in a person's life and the wedding of a prince would be an extravagant affair.
- It was customary to announce a wedding without a specific date or time.
- When preparations were complete to host would announce it a guests were expected to be ready to attend.



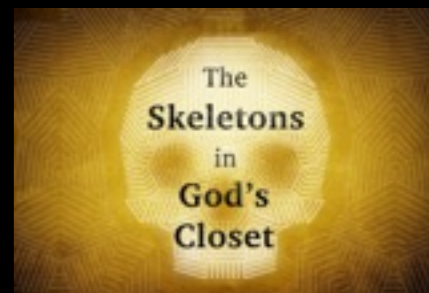
The Wedding Banquet

- The invites were sent out but when the guests were called they refused to come.
- Again messengers were sent out to bring the guests to the banquet.
 - Note the response of those invited
 - The messengers are killed and the king is furious
 - The king unleashes judgment on that city.



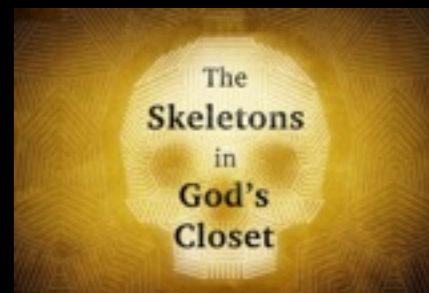
The Wedding Banquet

- After the rejection of his invitation the king opens the banquet up to anyone willing to attend.
- “The good and the bad” - God’s grace is for all people from all walks of life
- No one deserves or earns an invite. All invites are due to the grace of God



The Wedding Banquet

- An improperly dressed guest
 - Again the wedding of a prince was an important social event
 - It has been suggested that a host might have provided special clothing to guests
 - This man is “sneaking” into the banquet in his old rags
 - You can’t bring your sin into the banquet



The Wedding Banquet

- The parable explained:
- The Jews rejected the prophets of God and His invitation to relationship with Him.
- They killed the prophets of God and were then sent into exile.
- Jesus came to open the door for all people
 - Jesus explains to the leaders that tax collectors and prostitutes were making it into the Kingdom before them.



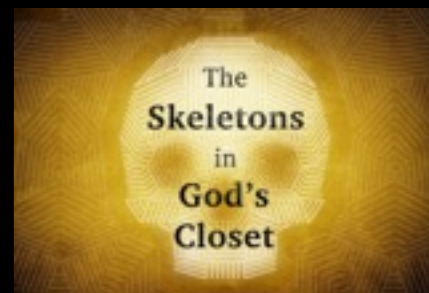
The Wedding Banquet

- Everyone is invited but you can't come in your old rags.
- To make it clear everyone is invited to the banquet but you must leave your sin and accept the gift of God's grace.



Another Look

- The Sheep and Goats
 - All the nations are gathered
 - A key distinction is made: How did you respond to Jesus?
- The judgement passed here is based on actions.
 - There is no mention of faith or grace



- There is only one way into Heaven
 - Through the blood of Jesus
 - Faith and Grace
- How you respond to Jesus matters
- You may be surprised who's there and who's not

