

October 11, 2020 Mt. 22: 1-14 & Ex. 32:1-14

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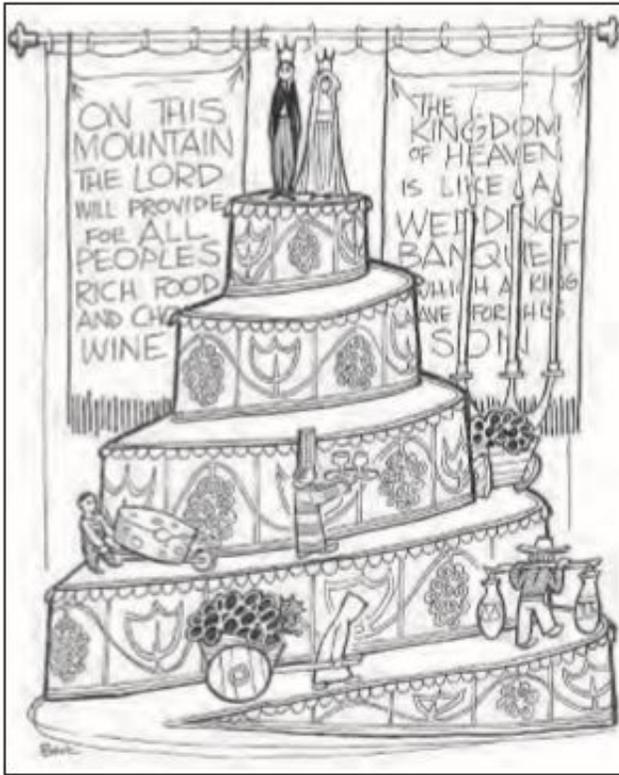
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Link to [Beck](#) (paywall) other [Beck](#)

Stone, Naomi. [The Sacred Invitation](#)

Rolheiser, Fr. Ron. [May Your Kingdom Come.....](#)

[Monastery Sunday Homilies](#)



ENTERING THE SCENE: Pilch, John J. in his book [The Cultural World of Jesus](#) tells us on pages 148-50 that: "A common practice in antiquity was to check out who was invited or not invited, what kind of preparations were being made or not being made, and who was planning to attend as well as who was planning to stay away. This last point was particularly important. If key people decided to stay away, so would others. The refusal of the invited guests to attend the king's wedding party shames him. For some reason the guests disapproved of the arrangements the king was making. They offer flimsy and insulting excuses, implying that tending the farm or the business is much more important than the wedding of the king's son. This is the traditional and indirect or face-saving method of turning down an invitation. ... Since all of life and survival itself in the Mediterranean world depends on one's social network, for an elite to eat with non-elite would be the equivalent of suicide." Have you ever found yourself in this situation?

Mt. 22:1-14

1 Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: 2 The **kingdom of heaven** is like a **king** who prepared a **wedding banquet** for his **son**. 3 He sent his **servants** to those who had been **invited** to the **banquet** to tell them to **come**, but they **refused** to come. 4 Then he sent some more **servants** and said, 'Tell those who have been **invited** that I have prepared my dinner: My **oxen** and **fattened cattle** have been **butchered**, and everything is **ready**. Come to the **wedding banquet**.' 5 But they paid no **attention** and **went off**--one to his **field**, another to his **business**. 6 The rest seized his **servants**, **mistreated** them and **killed** them. 7 The **king** was **enraged**. He sent his army and **destroyed** those **murderers** and burned their city. 8 Then he said to his **servants**, 'The **wedding banquet** is **ready**, but those I invited did not **deserve** to come. 9 Go to the **street corners** and **invite** to the **banquet** anyone you **find**.' 10 So the **servants** went out into the **streets** and **gathered** all the people they could **find**, both **good** and **bad**, and the wedding hall was filled with **guests**. 11 But when the **king** came in to see the **guests**, he noticed a man there who was not wearing **wedding clothes**. 12 **Friend**,' he asked, 'how did you get in here without **wedding clothes**?' The man was **speechless**. 13 Then the **king** told the **attendants**, 'Tie him hand and foot, and **throw** him outside, into the **darkness**, where there will be **weeping** and **gnashing of teeth**.' 14 For many are **invited**, but few are **chosen**."

DISCUSSION QUESTION: Have I turned down any of God's invitation recently?

PRAYER: Lord, so many things seem to be more important than my spiritual growth. How often I hear "Been so busy" when I ask someone how they are these days. The more options I have the more I have to be full of care when I choose among them. Help me to be very honest with myself as I invest my time, energy and love in ways that have me ever ready to respond with a strong YES to your invitations. Amen.