

STORIES

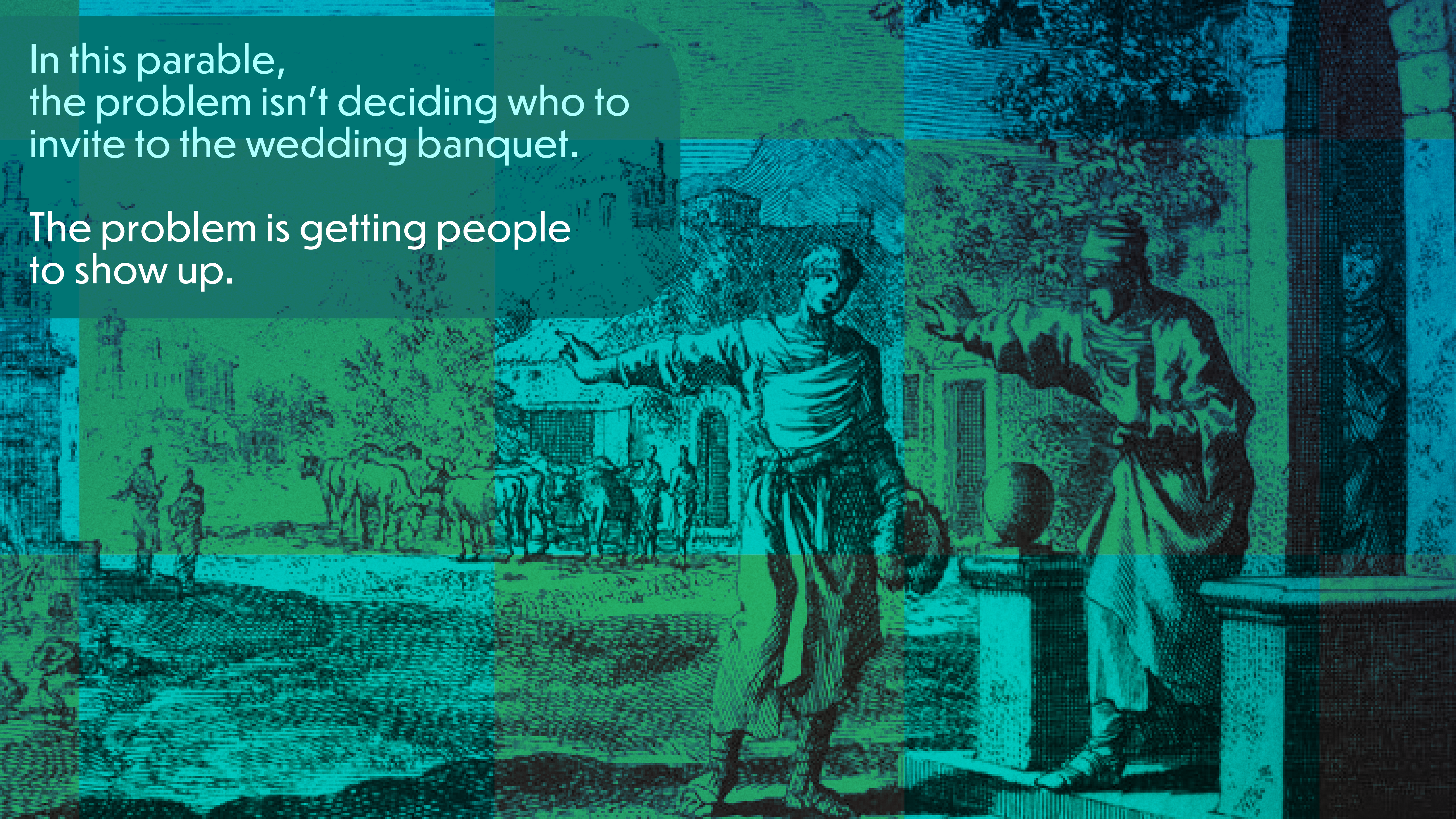
JESUS

TOLD



In this parable,
the problem isn't deciding who to
invite to the wedding banquet.

The problem is getting people
to show up.



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.

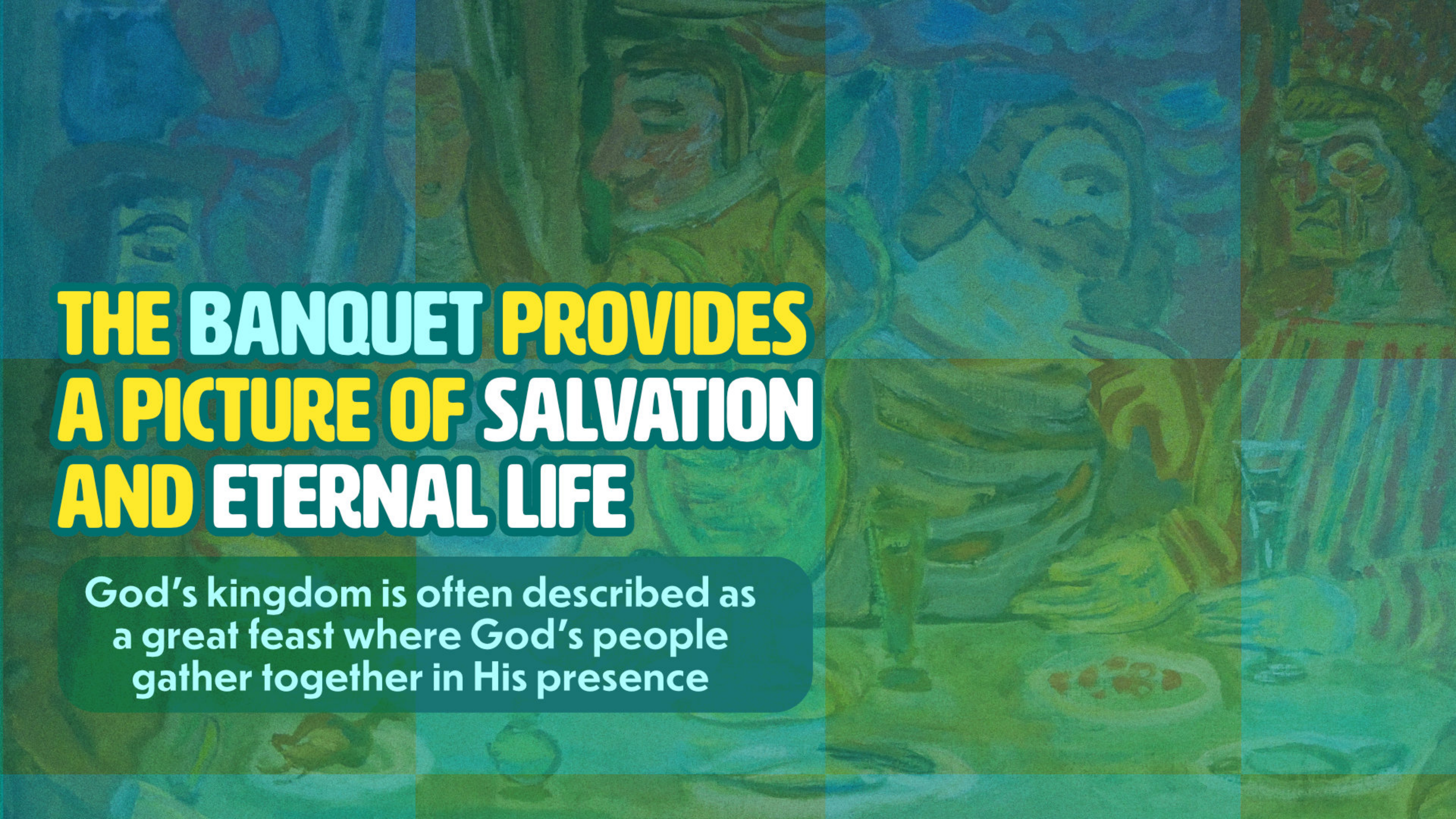
MATTHEW 22:1-3





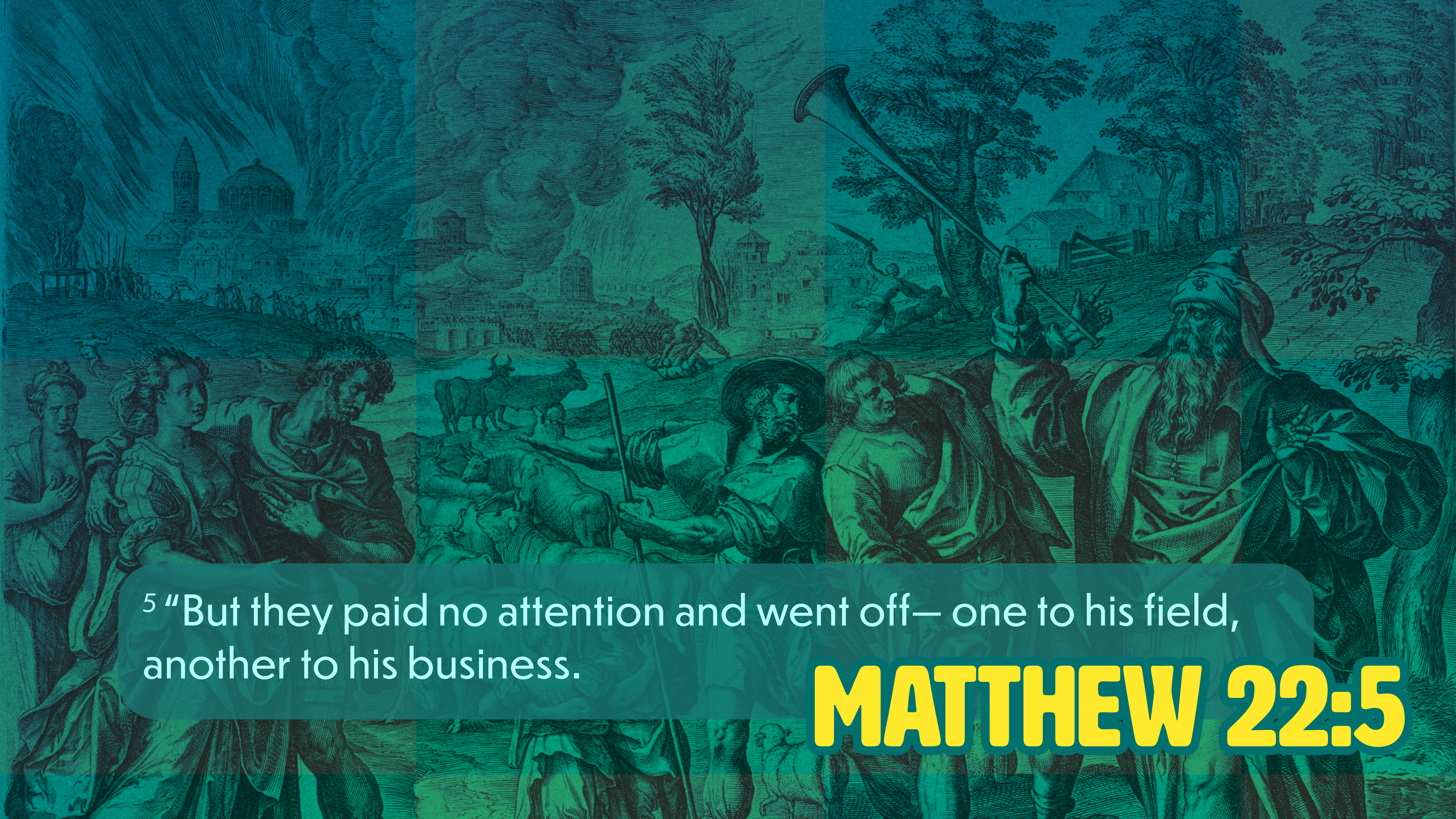
⁴ "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

MATTHEW 22:4



THE BANQUET PROVIDES A PICTURE OF SALVATION AND ETERNAL LIFE

God's kingdom is often described as a great feast where God's people gather together in His presence



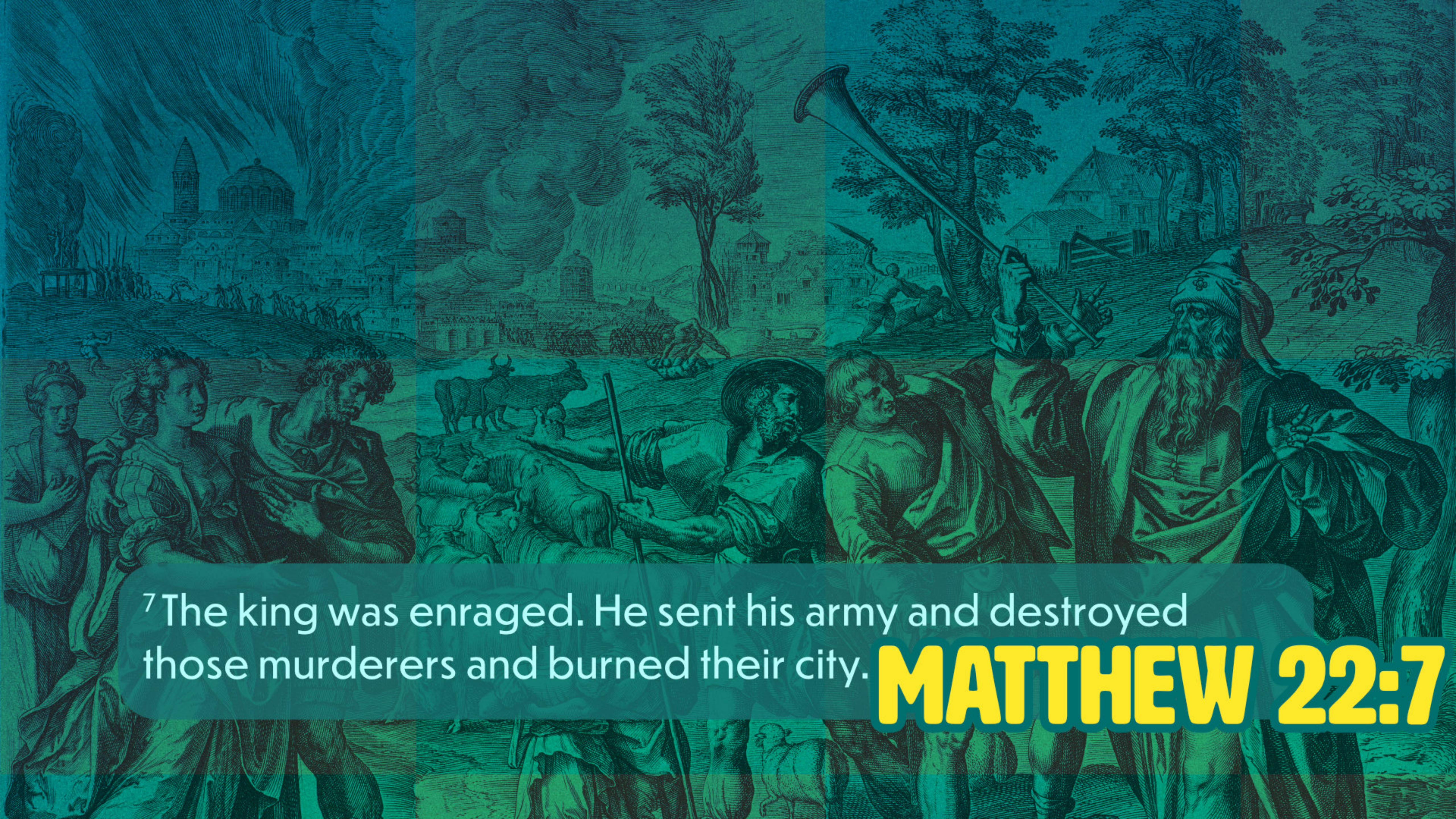
⁵ “But they paid no attention and went off— one to his field, another to his business.

MATTHEW 22:5



⁶The rest seized his servants, mistreated them
and killed them.

MATTHEW 22:6



⁷The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. **MATTHEW 22:7**

WHAT IS JESUS GETTING AT IN THIS FIRST SCENE?

Jesus is exposing the tragic pattern of Israel's history:
God's invitation has been repeatedly met with rejection

**This parable doesn't only apply to first-century Israel
because the same responses exist today.**

- ✓ indifference to Jesus and the church
- ✓ consumed with other pursuits
- ✓ hostile to the gospel



MATTHEW 22:8-10

⁸ “Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come.’ ⁹ So 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, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.



The good news of salvation in Jesus is not just for one group of people

- religious and irreligious
- moral and immoral
- successful and broken
- insider and outsider

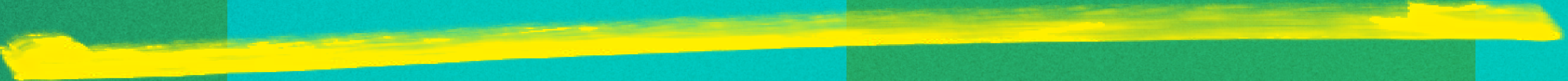
THE INVITATION IS FOR EVERYONE

Do you believe the gospel is extended to anyone?

Are you struggling to believe the gospel is for you?

"I just need to _____ first..."

DON'T MISUNDERSTAND THE INVITATION

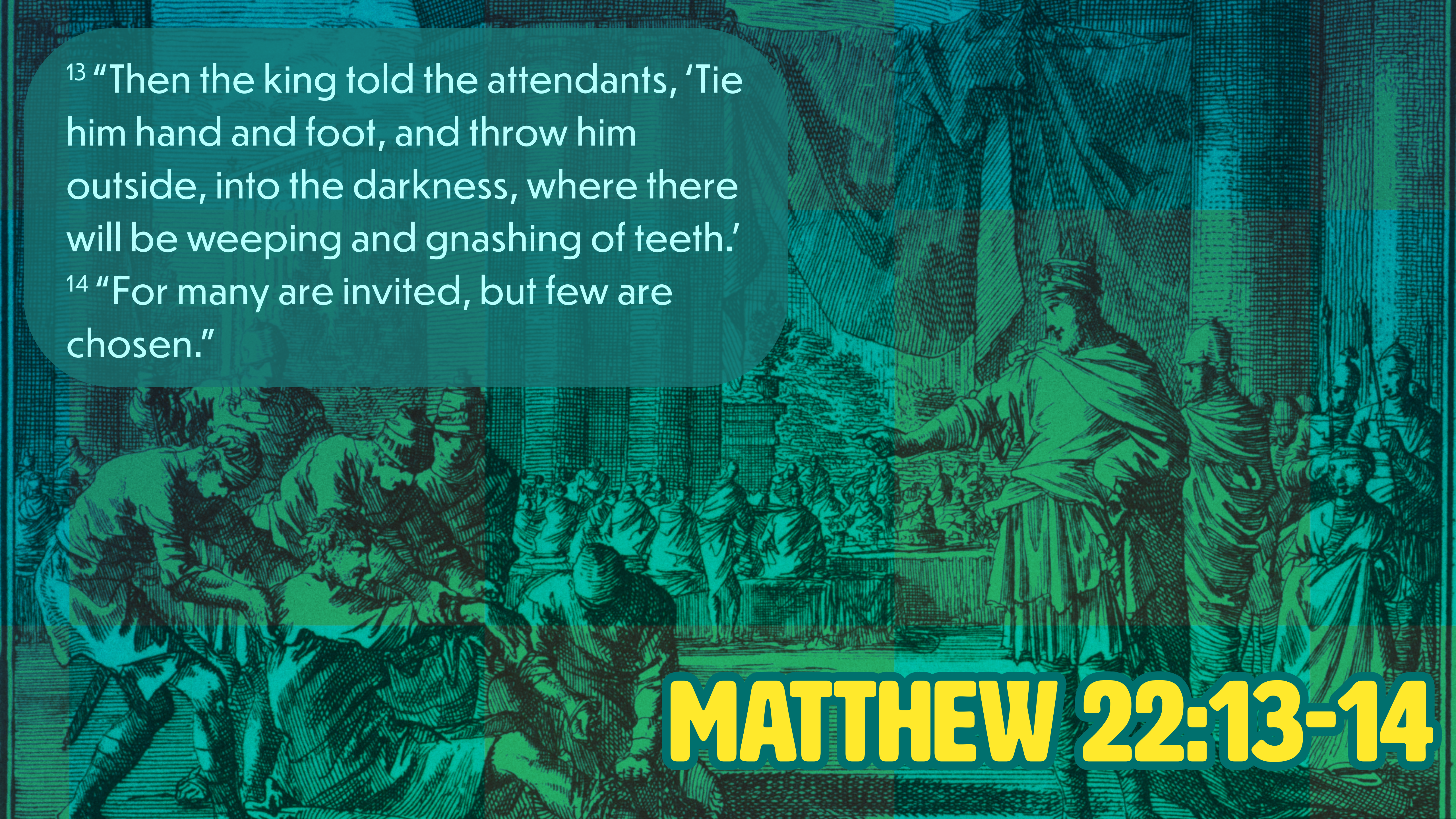




¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, ‘How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?’ The man was speechless.

MATTHEW 22:11-12

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."



MATTHEW 22:13-14

In the Bible, clothing often symbolizes a person's standing before God.

*For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness.*

ISAIAH 61:10

Entering God's kingdom requires
receiving Jesus Christ by faith

The King has prepared the banquet and the invitation has been extended.

WHAT IS YOUR RESPONSE?