

# They Made Light Of It

No. 66

## Introduction.

I. As our text today I have chosen the first six verses of Matthew 22.

**1 And Jesus answered and spake again in parables unto them, saying, 2 The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a certain king, who made a marriage feast for his son, 3 and sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the marriage feast: and they would not come. 4 Again he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them that are bidden, Behold, I have made ready my dinner; my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come to the marriage feast. 5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his merchandise; 6 and the rest laid hold on his servants, and treated them shamefully, and killed them. ASV**

II. In this parable Jesus states the men made light of the invitation to the marriage feast. The shameful behavior of these men has been repeated frequently in our age. Men are guilty of making light of many things.

I. **God's Existence** - There are those who make light of God's existence.

A. Some boldly exclaim, "There is no God."

1. Some have gone so far as to challenge God to prove His existence.

2. **Robert Ingersol**, the noted infidel, in his lectures would "prove" the non-existence of God by arrogantly saying, "If there is a God, I defy him to strike me dead within the next 5 minutes!" He would then stand before the audience, with his watch, and count off the minutes. At the end of 5 minutes he would triumphantly say, "There I told you there was no God!" Once a man hearing his blasphemy said, "Does the gentleman think he can exhaust God's patience in 5 minutes?"

B. The behavior of Ingersol and others like him is very tragic. There is too much evidence for God's existence.

1. **Once a small boy ran home from school** and burst through the door with tears in his eyes. He first saw his grandfather and he said, "Grandad, today, Billy told me his father said that there was no God. He said the world was just a coincidence. Isn't there a God like I learned about in church?" The **wise grandfather** said, "Come with me and I will show you God." He took the boy to the top of a high hill where they could see all that was around them. The grandfather showed him the majestic mountains and the vast ocean. He also showed him the **birds**, the running water, the animals and many of the other wonders of nature. As they were standing together on the hill the sun began to fall among the waves in the west. The boy asked, "**Why does the sun go down?**" The old gentleman answered, "The sun goes down to give us darkness so that we may rest from our work." The boy and the grandfather then stood in darkness with only the moon and stars giving them light. The little boy inquired, "**Why don't they fall?**" The grandfather answered, "Each one is working to hold the other one up by a force we call gravity. Without gravity they would fall and run into each other." The boy said, "**There is order among everything.** It's just like someone planned for everything to be perfect." He stopped and thought about he just said. He said to his grandfather, "I can see God now; I can see Him through what He

has created.” (Psa. 19:1; 14:1; Rom. 1:20).

There is no God? Then tell me pray  
Who started the sun on his golden way,  
Who paints the flowers and tints the sky  
From a palette of color of secret dye?

Who is it that set the stars in their course?  
Just natural law commingled with force?  
Is it that which brings comfort in hours of pain  
And soothes a tired body to sleep again?

Who is it that tells in early Spring  
The flowers to waken, the birds to sing,  
The ice to thaw, the river to flow,  
And tells sleeping things to rise and grow?

The sea and the valley, the plains and the hills,  
The mighty rivers, the sparkling rills;  
The primrose, the holly, the goldenrod-  
All of them symbols. Is there no God?

## II. **Light Of The Promises Of God** - There are those who make light of the promises God has given.

- A. They charge He will not keep them. Those who have made this charge forget or wilfully overlook God has never failed to keep a single promise He has made.
- B. Let’s observe a few of the many promises God has made and see if he failed to keep them..
1. In Genesis the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter we read of God **flooding the earth**. After the flood He promised that never again would He destroy the entire earth with a flood. (Gen. 9:11). So far, God has His promise, and I personally believe He always will.
  2. God promised to make **Abraham a great nation** and further said. (Gen. 12:3).
    - a. Later God said. (Gen. 22:18; Gal. 3:16). Hundreds of years later we find that God’s promise was made good.
    - b. All the families of the earth were blessed by Abraham’s descendent, Jesus Christ. (Matt. 1:1, 23; 28:19).
  3. God also promised the **land of Canaan to Israel**. This promise was first made to Abraham and repeated several times to others including Isaac and Jacob. When more than 400 years passed, many thought God had forgotten His promise or had gone back on His word. God had not, however, broken His promise. He sent Moses to deliver the children of Israel from bondage. Later Joshua led the children of Israel into the promised land. After Joshua had been in Canaan for about 30 years, he said God had fully kept the land promise and all the other promises He had made.
- JOS 23:14 "Now behold, today I am going the way of all the earth, and you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one word of all the good words which the Lord your God spoke concerning you has failed; all have been fulfilled for you, **not one of them has failed.**”
4. In the long ago God also promised He would establish **His kingdom**. Daniel said God’s kingdom would be set up “in the days of those kings” referring to the time of the Roman empire. (Dan. 2:44). In those days God set up this kingdom as He had promised. (Matt. 4:17; Acts 2:32). These examples and countless others show that God keeps His promises.
- C. What does this mean to us? It means we should not consider lightly the promises God has made. We should have full, unwavering confidence in His faithfulness because He will not fail us. Let us briefly look at some of the things God has promised.
1. God has promised to **be with us**. (Heb. 13:5).
  2. God has promised to **oversee the lives of those who love Him**. (Psa. 84:11; Matt. 6:25, 26, 33; Rom. 8:28).

3. God has promised to **answer our prayers**. (1 Pet. 3:12; 1 Jn. 5:14, 15).
4. God has promised to **forgive His children** when they confess their sins. (1 Jn. 1:9).
5. God has promised to **bless the faithful** and **punish the wicked**. (Rev. 2:10; Matt. 25:41)

**Annie Johnson Flint** has written these lines about what has and has not promised.

God hath not promised  
 Skies always blue,  
 Flower-strewn pathways  
 All our lives thro’;  
 God hath not promised  
 Sun without rain,  
 Joy without sorrow,  
 Peace without pain.

God hath not promised  
 Smooth roads and wide,  
 Swift, easy travel,  
 Needing no guide;  
 Never a mountain,  
 Rocky and steep,  
 Never a river  
 Turbid and deep

God hath not promised  
 We shall not know  
 Toil and temptation,  
 Trouble and woe;  
 He hath not told us  
 We shall not bear  
 Many a burden,  
 Many a care.

But God hath promised  
 Strength for the day,  
 Rest for the labor,  
 Light for the day,  
 Grace for the trials,  
 Help from above,  
 Unfailing sympathy,  
 Undying love.

### III. **Light Of The Bible** - There are those who make light of the Bible.

#### A. They charge the Bible is full of errors.

1. For example, for many years infidels argued that the city of **Gibeon** mentioned in the Joshua 9 is one of the weak links of the Bible since no trace was ever found of it. God let those infidels boast for many years, then He lowered the boom. Excavators started digging about 6 miles north of Jerusalem and uncovered the ancient city.
2. Strangely these men did not mention this “weak link” of the Bible any more.

#### B. Modernists have also belittled **the flood** recorded in the book of Genesis. They state the Genesis flood was nothing but a myth. Those who make this charge have overlooked the abundant evidence that supports the Genesis flood.

1. In the first place, the flood is supported by the **universality of tradition**.
  - a. The Babylonians, Assyrians, Greeks, American Indians and many other people have traditions of a great deluge that occurred in ages past. Almost all of these agree that there was a **universal destruction** of the human race and all other living creatures by a flood. Almost all agree that **an ark** or a boat was the means of escape. Almost all are in accord in saying that **a seed of mankind** was left to perpetuate the race. Many add that wickedness of man brought the flood. Some mention “Noe”, several speak of the dove and the raven, and some discuss a sacrifice offered by those who were saved.
  - b. Such a universal belief must be based on an historical fact. There is no other way to account for it.

2. In the second place, the flood is supported by **archaeology**. In the past few centuries many archaeological discoveries have been made that show the flood was a historical fact.

a. Halley's Bible Handbook has this interesting note about the flood.

"At Ur, city of Abraham, the Joint Expedition of the University Museum of Pennsylvania and the British Museum, under the leadership of Dr. C.L. Woolley, found, 1929, near the bottom of the Ur mounds, underneath several strata of human occupation, a great bed of solid water-laid clay 8 ft. thick without admixture of human relic, with yet the ruins of another city buried beneath it. Dr. Woolley said that 8 ft. of the sediment implied a very great depth and a long period of water, that it could not have been put there by an ordinary overflow of the rivers but only by such vast inundation as the Biblical flood. The civilization underneath the flood layer was so different from that above it that it indicated to Dr. Woolley "a sudden and terrific break in the continuity of history."

b. **Halley's Bible Handbook** also contains this archaeological note.

"The Field Museum-Oxford University Joint Expedition, under the direction of Dr. Stephen Langdon, found, 1928-29, a bed of clean water-laid clay, in the lower strata of the ruins of Kish, 5 ft. thick, indicating a flood of vast proportions. It (the flood layer) contained no objects of any kind. Underneath it the relics represented an entirely different type of culture."

c. Such discoveries as these have been found throughout the world. They indicate at one time the earth has been covered with water.

C. Others in our time have belittled Noah and his ark.

1. They scoff by saying, "How did Noah get all those animals in the ark?"

2. This question has been usually asked by those who look upon the ark as a small boat. This was far from the case. The ark was 300 cubits by 50 cubits by 30 cubits. It has 3 decks and was divided into compartments.

a. The ark was comparable to many of our modern ocean ships today.

b. It was at least 450 ft. long, 75 ft. wide and 45 ft. high.

c. It had a capacity equivalent to 522 stock cars, and would hold 7 to 10 thousand species. This is the equivalent of a train 5 miles long. If the cubit was 21", the ark would hold 825 stock cars and would have the capacity of a train over 7 miles long.

d. Some have calculated that all the "kinds" of animals and their fuel could have been taken care of in an area equivalent to less than 200 stock cars. This compared to the capacity of the ark show the ark was of more than adequate size to accommodate Noah and the animals.

IV. **Light Of Baptism** - There are those who make light of baptism.

A. They say, "Baptism won't save you." Those who make this statement need to take a closer look at the New Testament.

B. The New Testament teaches it is necessary for salvation. (Matt. 28:19, 20; Mk. 16:16; Jn. 3:5; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).

1. These verses clearly indicate baptism is essential to one's salvation.
2. Through baptism one is baptized into the death of Christ and receives the remission of sins.

**Conclusion.**

- I. There are those who make light of the invitation of Christ. They pay no attention to the precious plea of Christ. They do not seem to realize that by rejecting the invitation of Christ they will be lost without hope.
- II. Don't reject the invitation of Christ! Let Christ come into your heart! Give your life to Christ today? Come as we stand and sing the hymn of invitation.