

Readings from the Word of God

Sunday, 25 September, 2022

Matthew 22:8-14

⁸ Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. ⁹ Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' ¹⁰ So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding *hall* was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. ¹² So he said to him, "Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the servants, "Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast *him* into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'
"For many are called, but few *are* chosen."

New Jerusalem and Its Heavenly Doctrines §67

...whoever loves himself, loves also those who belong to him; by whom are meant here, in particular, children and grand-children, and, in general, all who make one with himself, and whom he calls his own. Loving these is the same as loving one's self; for a man beholds them, as it were, in himself, and himself in them. Among those whom such a man calls his own, are also all those by whom he is flattered, honoured, and worshipped.

Secrets of Heaven §6819

Not only is an individual person one's neighbour but also a group of people; for the community whether small or large is one's neighbour, as is one's country, the Church, the Lord's kingdom, and above all others the Lord. All these are meant by the neighbour whom one should be moved by charity to benefit. They are also ascending degrees of the neighbour, for a community composed of a group of people is the neighbour in a higher degree than an individual person, one's country in a still higher degree than the community, the Church in a still higher degree than this, and the Lord's kingdom in a still higher degree than that. But the Lord is the neighbour in the highest degree. These ascending degrees are like a flight of stairs which have the Lord at the top.

Secrets of Heaven §2658

... [To inherit] means to possess the Lord's life, that is, to receive life from the Lord. This is clear from many places in the Word... to possess the Lord's life, or to receive life from the Lord, is to accept the Lord in love and faith. And because such persons abide in the Lord and are the Lord's they are called His heirs and sons.

Revelation 21:7

He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.