

"MOMENTS WITH MARY"

"YOU ARE INVITED! RSVP"

By Mary Mayko

Matt. 22:2-3 The Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a certain King which made a Wedding for His Son. And sent forth His servants to call them that were invited to the Wedding, but they would not come. [v.8-9] The Wedding Feast is ready, and the guests I invited are not worthy of the honor. Now, go into the street corners and invite everyone you see."

INVITATIONS! We get many of them in our life time! Some are casual, a simple phone call or meeting with some one and a "Let's go somewhere together!" We are invited to Meetings, Grand openings, Concerts, Special Dinners, Etc. Some of these we may choose to ignore or decline. But there are Formal Invitations that includes an RSVP. That means we need to respond with an enthusiastic acceptance or an emotional refusal. If we fail to acknowledge the invitation, it is considered an insult to the sender! Like saying, "I forgot!" or "I don't have time for this!" Both ways tell the sender this is not a priority in your life!

Important occasions give us an opportunity to show the Honoree our love by thoughtful gifts or attending the event. The excitement builds as we begin to make our plans, maybe buy a new garment and shop around for *just the right gift*. Weddings, Baby Showers, Christenings, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Graduations are just a few of these important occasions. We begin to think about the other people who will be there. Perhaps some, we have not seen for some time! Family, Friends, and perhaps meet some new people!

We think about the one we will honor with this celebration and how they have influenced our lives. The anticipation is almost as great as the actual event, but many times the joy of the actual event far exceeds our expectations as we join with others to bless the Honoree!

The Scripture above expresses the way the LORD felt when people refused His invitation to His Son's Wedding! Many of the people invited had no regard for this very important one time event! They either ignored it, or felt other things were more pressing. John 3:16 is a verse so many of us are familiar with, as *ALL* are invited, yet so few respond! How disappointed He must be when people are *too busy* or "*I will later*" is their attitude. The LORD offers a good many different types of invitations, but we need to read them and respond to them. Some accept the initial

invitation, but neglect at attend to it. Some even get angry if reminded, especially if they are not prepared for some reason.

Let me remind myself and you that many invitations are a *once only* event! Say, a Wedding Anniversary Celebration on a Cruise Ship! If you miss it, there will never be another opportunity to make up for it! That ship left port and sailed away while the Celebrations were occurring! Don't let these events slip by unnoted or ignored! Once it's over, it's over!

The LORD has offered many invitations in His Word. What do we do with them? When He says "Come" for any reason, do we take that seriously?

John 6:37 "All that the Father gives Me shall come to Me; and the one who come to Me I will certainly not cast out!" What a joy to know that we are accepted unconditionally when we respond to Him!

Rev.3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and dine with him, and he with Me!" He does not demand, but waits for us to answer! If we open to Him, He will bring peace and joy.

Matt. 11:28-30 "Come to Me and I will give you rest, all you who work so hard beneath a heavy yoke. Wear My yoke, for it fits perfectly, and let Me teach you, for I am gentle and humble, and you shall find rest for your souls; for I give only light burdens."

What an invitation! At times we get so weary and our responsibilities seem to outweigh our abilities! We get so tired we cannot think or reason properly, and think we simply must keep trudging onward! The LORD invites us to "Come!" It's a simple invitation, but are we listening?

Isaiah 1:18a "Come now, and let us reason together, says the LORD." Come and talk it all over with Him!

Isaiah 2:3b "Come and let us go unto the mountain of the LORD" He will instruct up on His mountain if we will only go there! His Presence will make all the difference in our lives! He will teach us of His ways. We can walk in His paths. They may seem narrow and steep at times, harder than the *Broadway* over there, but in the End, the rewards for accepting His invitations will be worth it!

"Come, Come to Me" Time and time again he bids us come. How do we treat His precious personal invitations to us? Accept or reject? Only you can give the answer!

The LORD bless you! Mary Mayko Email: mmako1968@msn.com
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