

The Wedding Banquet

(satire)

Chorus

I cannot come to the banquet, don't trouble me now.

I have married me a wife, I bought me a cow.

I have fields and commitments that cost a pretty sum.

Pray hold me excused, I cannot come.

A certain man held a banquet on his fine estate in town.
He laid a festive table and he wore a wedding gown.
He sent invitations to his neighbors far and wide,
But when the meal was ready, each of them replied;
I cannot come.

Chorus

The master rose up in anger, called his servant by name;
Said: "Go into the town, fetch the blind and the lame.
Fetch the peasant and the pauper, for this I have willed.
My banquet must be crowded, and my table must be filled.

Chorus

When all the poor had assembled, there was still room to spare,
So the master demanded: "Go search everywhere.
To the highways and the byways and force them to come in.
My table must be filled before the banquet can begin.
I cannot come.

Chorus

Now God has written a message for the rest of the mankind.
If you're slow a responding, he may leave you behind.
He's preparing a banquet for that great and glorious day.
When the Lord and Master calls us, be certain not to say;
I cannot come.