

THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB IS COME REVELATION 19:1-9

Text: Revelation 19:7

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⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

Introduction:

We all know that weddings can be spectacular. Thousands of dollars are spent trying to produce a perfect moment in time that will join a couple together in marital bliss.

Typically, the church is decorated to the hilt; the bride is beautifully dressed in her pure white wedding dress; and the groom stands nervously at the front of the church. It is a special moment in the lives of those two individuals and for the people who know and love them. Weddings, here on earth, are a special thing!

Everyone who has a wedding is looking for one thing: a marriage made in heaven! I just want you to know that while some marriages may have been made in heaven, they still have to be lived out here on earth. That tends to make most of them less than perfect.

We have arrived at an exciting portion of the Bible. After the dark, dreary passages we have been looking at over the last several weeks these verses shine with the glory of Heaven. We are going to talk about a wedding this evening. Not just any wedding, but the marriage super of the Lamb. This wedding will be a time of great joy for all the redeemed people of God!

If you are a Christian I want you to know that there are some blessed days ahead for you. If you are lost, I want you to know that you need to get ready to meet the Lord. He is coming and He is coming for His people. The rest will be left behind to endure the Tribulation and face the fires of Hell.

Notice:

1. THE EXALTATION OF THE SAVIOR (VSS. 1-6)

A. The Hallelujah of Redemption (vss.1)

Revelation 19:1

¹ And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:

Heaven praises the Lord for all He has done.

- The cross
- The Blood
- The Empty Tomb

Illustration: Billy Bray

Years ago, in Wales, there lived a man by the name of Billy Bray. He was an old time shouter! Many of the people who heard him shout used to rebuke him for praising the Lord so loudly and so often. Whenever they would try to stop him, old Billy would respond by saying, “I can’t help it! God has been so good to me! With every step I take I remember His glory!” He said, “I put my right foot down and it says ‘Hallelujah’. I put my left foot down and it says, ‘Amen’.” With that, Billy Bray would march off shouting “Hallelujah” and “Amen” with every step he took. Billy Bray knew that God deserved praise for the salvation He so freely gives!

B. The Hallelujah of Retribution (vss. 2-3)

Revelation 19:2-3

²For true and righteous *are* his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand. ³And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.

- The Great Harlot has received a just retribution for her evil.
- God has avenged the blood of His servants who died at her hand.
- God has now gotten victory over His foes.

C. The Hallelujah of Realization (vss. 4-5)

Revelation 19:4-5

⁴ And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. ⁵ And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.

This is the last mention of the elders in the Revelation. They join in Hallelujah as the volumes of praise gains momentum. This third hallelujah comes from realizing the greatness of God.

Someone has said, “Blessed is the Christian who gets quiet each day to read God’s Word and pray in order that he might contemplate the Lord’s greatness.”

D. The Hallelujah of Lord’s Reign

Revelation 19:6

⁶ And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

2. THE EXCITEMENT OF THE SUPPER (VSS. 7-8)

A. The Excitement of the Completed Plan (vss. 7)

Revelation 19:7

⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

At this moment, God's plan for the ages is finally complete. Since man sinned in the Garden of Eden, God has been working to bring man back into fellowship with Himself. This was accomplished when Jesus died on the cross for the sins of humanity. Now, all those who place their faith in Jesus are saved by the grace of God and brought nigh unto Him!

Note:

The groom, and not the bride, is the center of attention? Down here, everything is on hold until they start playing the wedding march and the bride, the center of attention, makes her way down the aisle. In heaven, things are just a little different! It's not the bride, but it is the groom, the Lord Jesus Who is the center of attention!

B. The Excitement of the Completed Presentation (vss. 7-8)

It might help us to understand a little of the background for weddings of this type. In oriental weddings, there were typically three stages. There was the Betrothal Stage, the Presentation Stage and the Celebration Stage.

1. *The Betrothal Stage* - This was something like what we know in the west as an engagement. However, the major difference lies in the fact that this was a binding agreement! When a couple was betrothed, they were considered married! There was no getting out of it, except through a divorce or death!

Another difference was that the marriage partners and the marriages themselves were usually arranged by the parents of the bride and groom. You didn't even get to pick your mate! Love was not usually the basis for marriages. You didn't marry for love, you loved who you married! Many could learn a lesson from that today!

2. *The Presentation Stage* - When the time of the wedding arrived, the Father of the groom would send the bridegroom and his friends to the bride's home. They would get her and bring her back to the groom's house, which he had prepared for her, with great celebration and joy. There, gifts would be exchanged,

the marriage would be consummated and the couple would begin their lives together.

That is what we are waiting on today! We are married, we are just waiting on the Bridegroom to come and call His bride to come meet Him.

3. The Festival Stage - Following the wedding, the couple, their friends and their families would enter a time of celebration.

C. The Excitement of the Completed Preparation (vss. 7-8)

Revelation 19:7-8

⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. ⁸ And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

Notice that the text says “his wife hath made herself ready.” Typically, oriental brides prepared their own wedding garments. It could be as elaborate or as simple as they chose to make it. Usually, it consisted of two pieces. One, an inner garment called a tunic and two, the outer garment called a toga. It was the bride’s responsibility to get herself ready for the wedding!

The bride has made the proper preparations and she is ready for the wedding! This means that the faith she placed in Jesus was not misplaced. It means that all her

trials and struggles are behind her. It means that she has trusted the Lord to save her and He has! She is home! She is loved! And, she is ready to enter into the joy of her Lord! What a day that will be!

3. THE EXPECTATION OF THE SAINTS (VSS. 9-10)

Revelation 19:9-10

⁹ And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. ¹⁰ And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, *See thou do it not*: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

A. The Guest at the Wedding Supper

Who are these guests at this heavenly wedding? I believe that it will be the Old Testament saints and the Tribulation saints who were saved before the founding of the Church that Christ established with His disciples and empowered on the day of Pentecost and those saved after the rapture of the Church during the Tribulation.

B. The Glory of the Wedding Supper

After an oriental wedding, there was always a celebration. The length and the festivities all depended on the wealth of the Bridegroom. When rich men

married, their wedding celebrations might last up to 7 days!

C. The Groom at the Wedding Supper

In a typical oriental wedding celebration, the groom would mingle with the guests to be sure that everyone had every need met.

Imagine what it will be to be in the presence of the Lord Jesus and have Him be occupied with seeing that our joy is full!

Close:

There will be a marriage made in Heaven someday, but only the redeemed are invited.

For those who are going, consider for a moment how you are preparing for that day! What kind of garments will you be wearing when you stand there at that Royal Wedding? The time to prepare is today! The place to prepare is here! The person to prepare is you.