

Invest this Christmas  
“Invest in Truth”

John 14:1-6

11.30.14

I. Jesus, the \_\_\_\_\_ in the New Testament.

1. Contract stage of marriage in the Bible times.
2. Chuppah or \_\_\_\_\_ Stage.
3. The Wedding Feast was the \_\_\_\_\_ Stage.

II. What “Truth” can we clearly see about the Christ of Christmas?

1. Jesus clearly claims \_\_\_\_\_ with God; He is \_\_\_\_\_, “God with us.”

- Simply calling God His “Father” was a claim of deity.
- In verses 1 and 7 Jesus explains it further to His disciples.

2. Jesus is preparing \_\_\_\_\_ as a dwelling place of eternal fellowship.

- Jesus revealed that He will need to “go” to make preparations. (verse 2)
- Jesus promised that He would “return” to take His followers to be with Him. (verse 3)

3. Jesus clearly claims to be the only \_\_\_\_\_ to Heaven and eternal fellowship with God.

- Thomas represents our most typical human response.
- Religions seek to provide “A way” by offering two things:
  - a. something to \_\_\_\_\_ - some philosophy or doctrine
  - b. something to “\_\_\_\_\_” - rituals and rules of behavior to earn our way . . .
- Yet, Jesus made salvation, forgiveness, eternal life and Heaven about Himself . . .

FURTHER STUDY

We, the Church are the bride of Christ. The New Testament employs the metaphor of Christ as the bridegroom and Christ’s followers, the Church, as the Bride of Christ. Review the twelve steps that describe the ancient Hebrew marriage process then read the Scriptures and look for the marriage imagery employed by the New Testament writers.

1. **SELECTED:** The selection of the bride.
2. **PURCHASED:** A bride price was established.
3. **BETROTHED:** The bride and groom are betrothed to each other.
4. **COMMUNICATED:** A written document is drawn up, known as a *kitubah*. This betrothal contract is called, in Hebrew, a *shitre erusin*.
5. **CONSENTED:** The bride must give her consent.
6. **SEALED:** Gifts were given to the bride and a cup called “the cup of the covenant” was shared between the bride and the groom.
7. **CLEANSED:** The bride had a *mikvah* (water immersion), which is a ritual of cleansing.
8. **SEPARATED:** The bridegroom departed.
9. **PREPARED:** The bridegroom went back to his father’s house and prepared the bridal chamber, while the Bride prepared for her new home.
10. **AWAITED:** The bridegroom would return with a shout, “Behold, the bridegroom comes” and the sound of the ram’s horn (shofar) would be blown.
11. **ESCORTED:** He would abduct his bride, usually in the middle of the night, to go to the bridal chamber where the marriage would be consummated. This in Hebrew is called *nesu’in*.
12. **CLEBRATED:** Finally, there would be a marriage supper for all the guests invited by the father of the bride.  
(Source—discoverthebook.org)

Mark 13:32

1 Thessalonians 4:16

John 3:28-30

1 Corinthians 7:20-23

Matthew 26:29

Ephesians 5:25-27

Luke 22:20

Matthew 25:1-13

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Revelation 19:6-9

John 14:2-3

Application