



July 18, 2021

## **Bride of Christ**

Genesis 2:24-25; Revelation 19:6-9; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 21:2-4

### Creation – the First Marriage

- Man bursts into poetry in celebration.
- Woman along with man are to reflect the image of God into the world. Together they represent God.
- The woman and the man are one flesh.

### Redemption – the Final Marriage

- A great multitude burst out in singing.
- The marriage supper will be a celebration.
- You want to get invited to this party.

### Righteous deeds of the saints = righteous acts performed by the saints or righteous acts for the saints

- We have been made right in God's sight so that we can do righteous deeds for God.
- Our righteous deeds do not earn God's grace. Our righteous deeds are in response to God's grace.
- Our righteous deeds get us ready for the marriage supper of the Lamb.

This feast is a royal feast that includes people from all nations.

This feast culminates and is fulfilled in the marriage supper of the Lamb and the new heavens and new earth.

When we feast in a way that honors God, we anticipate the marriage supper of the Lamb.

God makes us righteous through the death of Jesus.

- Christ loved and gave himself up for the church.
- Christ sanctifies the church presenting her without blemish.
- Christ makes himself one with the church.
- Oneness with Jesus is a present and future reality.

The marriage of heaven and earth is the new creation.

The new creation and new Jerusalem will be where the faithful will experience the intimate presence of God.

**Big Idea:** Become like the One you are one with.

The life we live is in preparation for the celebration of becoming fully one with Jesus.

In response to the grace of God let's live righteously so that more people can come to this party.

**Memory Verse:** “And the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.’ And he said to me, ‘These are the true words of God.’” – Revelation 19:9 (ESV)

**Other Scripture:** Genesis 2:20-23; Isaiah 25:6-8, 61:10; 2 Corinthians 5:21

**Further Study:**

**Read:** Genesis 2:24-25; Revelation 19:6-9; Ephesians 5:25-32; and Revelation 21:2-4 in your group or with at least one other person.

1. Have someone read it while everyone reads along.
2. Have someone else read it while everyone else listens.
3. Have someone recount the text from memory in their own words.

**Discuss:**

1. What does the passage reveal about God?
2. What does the passage reveal about humanity?

**Act:**

1. If this passage is from God, what should change about how you live?
2. Who needs to hear the truth of this Scripture that you can share it with this week? Identify a time this week when you might have the opportunity to share with them.