

THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB REVELATION 19:1-10

Following the expressions of praise to the great God who had judged Babylon, there is the announcement of a wedding. This wedding has long been anticipated and is now on the verge of happening. This is the climatic day in the life of the church and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WEDDING.

A. Praise for God's Righteous Judgments. 9:1-4.

* The praise is not as much for the suffering of the judged as for the fact that evil is not allowed to continue and the people of God are delivered. *

B. Praise for God's Sovereign Reign. 9:5-6.

* The theme of God's power and sovereignty is prevalent in Revelation. *

C. Praise for the Coming Marriage. 9:7.

* This is the event that has been anticipated since Calvary. Heb. 12:2; Gen. 29:20 *

II. THE BACKGROUND OF THE WEDDING.

- A man would become engaged or betrothed to a woman usually by paying a sum to her father (Eph. 5:25-26; Acts 20:28). The engaged couple were legally married although they lived separately. Joseph and Mary illustrate this principle (Matt. 1:18-25). At the appropriate time the man's father would instruct him to go receive his bride. He, accompanied by friends, would go receive his bride and bring her to the father's house where the wedding would be performed and the union consummated (Matt. 25:1-13). The bride would likely know or hear that her groom was coming. She would make every effort to be prepared for his arrival. The celebration would continue for one or two weeks (John 2:1-12).

III. THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE WEDDING.

A. Jesus Christ – The Groom.

1. Contrary to the customs of our day, the groom is the center of attention at this wedding.
2. Jesus is presented as the great bridegroom in the New Testament. John 3:29; Song of Solomon; Eph. 5:22-33.
3. This analogy emphasizes a loving and intimate relationship between Christ and the church.

B. The Church – The Bride of Christ. Rom. 7:4; 2 Cor. 11:2.

* The church is now preparing for the coming wedding (Rev. 19:8). In that day two garments were worn. There was an inner garment called the tunic. The outer garment was the toga. The tunic speaks of the imputed righteousness that we have in Christ. The toga speaks of the outward display of righteousness or our righteous act. As we live for Christ we are preparing for our wedding. *

C. The Guests – The Old Testament and Tribulation Saints. Rev. 19:9.

* Imagine having Adam, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Isaiah, Daniel, Eve, Esther and Ruth at your wedding. *

D. The Officiating Minister. Gen. 2:22.

* God the Father officiated at the first wedding in Eden. He will officiate at this wedding. *

IV. THE RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE WEDDING. 19:9.

Imagine the reception that God will provide following the marriage of His Son!!

When we studied the judgments of the tribulation we rejoiced as Christians because of what we will miss. When we study the marriage of the Lamb we rejoice over what we will attend.