

TURN TO TEXT: JOHN 3:29

He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled.

INTRO:

- The Bible opens with a Bride and a Groom and the Bible closes with a Bride and a Groom.
- Remember, Jesus first miracle was at a Wedding where He provided the wine.
- At first glance, this may just seem like a fly by verse, but as we drill down into it, the TWO BECOMING ONE is the Mystery, the Purpose and Plan of God from Eternity Past to Eternity Future.

CONSIDER THESE VERSES:

EPH. 3:2-11

2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you—ward:

3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,

4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:

7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

EPH. 5:30-32

30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.

32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Col 1:26-27 *Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:*

Col 1:18 *And Christ is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.*

MAIN POINT:

- WE ARE THE BRIDE, THE BODY OF CHRIST...
- WE ARE RELATIONALLY ONE WITH CHRIST...
- WE ARE IN THE MYSTERY, WHICH WAS NOT PREVIOUSLY KNOWN BUT IS NOW KNOWN TO THE SAINTS OF GOD, HIS CHURCH.
- WE ARE MADE UP OF JEWS AND GENTILES, MALE AND FEMALE, BOND AND FREE, WE ARE ALL ONE IN CHRIST.
- THIS UNION WAS ALWAYS IN THE HEART OF GOD.
- HE STARTED WITH A UNION AND ENDS WITH A UNION.
- WE, LIKE GOMER, MAY OFTEN BE UNFAITHFUL TO CHRIST, BUT HE WILL NEVER BE UNFAITHFUL TO US.
- WE WON US WITH HIS INFINITE LOVE AND WILL KEEP US WITH HIS INFINITE UNCONDITIONAL UNENDING EVERLASTING LOVE AND PROMISE TO BE ETERNALLY UNITED TO HIM.

HOS.2:14-23 *Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her.*

15 And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.

16 And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, that thou shalt call me Ishi [i.e. Husband]; and shalt call me no more Baali.

17 For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name.

19 And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies.

20 I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the LORD.

21 And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth;

22 And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel.

23 And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God.

APPLICATION:

- The last verse of the last book of the Old Testament ends with a curse...
- And the last verse of the last book in the New Testament ends with Grace...

***MAL. 4:6** And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.*

***REV. 22:21** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.*

- The first husband and wife end in a curse from the first book of the Bible...
- The last book of the Bible ends with a blessing with the last bride and bridegroom...

***MATT. 19:4-6** And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,*

5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they two shall be one flesh?

6 Wherefore they are no more two, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

***Rev 21:9** And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.*

***Rev 22:17** And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*

CHALLENGE: IF IT IS IN THE HEART OF GOD TO HAVE ANY AND ALL COME UNTO HIM AND ENTER INTO THE RELATIONAL ONENESS OF THE BODY AND BRIDE OF CHRIST, THEN IT IS ALSO IN OUR HEART TO INVITE ANY AND ALL WHO ARE WILLING TO COME...

MATT. 22:2-5, 8-10

2 The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,

3 And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

4 Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.

5 But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise:

8 Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.

9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.

10 So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

CONCLUSION:

- LET'S GO BE THE BODY AND BRIDE OF CHRIST!
- LET'S BE THE GRACE OF GOD TO A WORLD WITHOUT GOD!
- LET'S HAVE OUR MARRIAGES AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH EACH OTHER REFLECT THE GLORY OF GOD TOWARDS CHRIST AND THE CHURCH, HIS BRIDE AND HIS BODY, US!