

Song of Solomon

10-21-99

“Holy Matrimony!”

1. THE WEDDING!

- 1.1. We’ve looked at their **Courtship**(1-3:5).
Now we have the **Wedding**(3:6-5:1)
- 1.2. Quick overview of a Jewish wedding.
 - 1.2.1. **Betrothal/Marriage 1)** Groom to leave Fathers House/ To Brides. {Incarnation} **2)** Negotiate Price. {That would be his blood} **3)** Now Betrothed. {at salvation} {now Set-Apart} **4)** Both drank from a cup/ confirm cov. {communion} **5)** Back to Fathers House. {“I go to prepare a place for you”} **6)** Meanwhile bride Prepares herself. {White gown/holiness/sanctification} **7)** Invitations go out but not everyone comes. {When gospel invite goes out not all come} **8)** Father sends Groom, {when its ready; Father inspects & says when} **9)** She expected him/ didn’t know exactly when? {in the twinkling of an eye} **10)** The Groom arrived w/his groomsmen & was proceeded w/a shout! **11)** He takes Bride to Fathers House {Rapture} {“I will return again & receive you to myself, that where I am there you may be also!”} **12)** Enter Bridal chamber & consummate marriage for 7 days {marriage/sup of the lamb}

2. THE GALLANT GROOM! (3:6-11)

- 1.1. Interesting the 1st topic of discussion, & focus, is on the “Groom” not the Bride at this wedding.
 - 1.1.1. The same is true at another wedding soon to come.
- 1.2. Let’s look at **Rev.19:7**.
 - 1.2.1. **(7a) - The Wedding Announcement!** - It is the Marriage of the “Lamb” (Normally a wedding is announced in the name of the Bride!...but not this one!)
 - 1.2.1.1. He will be the center of attention...not her!
 - 1.2.2. The processional will not be playing “Here comes the **bride**”, but “Here comes the **Groom!**”(Ryrie)
 - 1.2.3. **(7b-8a) - The Brides Dress!** - Again God’s beautiful balance of Man’s Responsibility & God’s Sovereignty!
 - 1.2.3.1. Man’s Responsibility: “...**has made herself ready!**” {Her part}
 - 1.2.3.2. God’s Sovereignty: “...**to her it was granted!**” {His part}

- 1.2.4. Her wedding gown is...her “**righteous acts**”! {It looks like we get a white garment @ salvation, that only comes by Him! - Then we make a dress on top of it!}
- 1.2.4.1. Every “good work” is another stitch in the making of our wedding dress!
- 1.2.5. Brides come to our church on their wedding day 1 of 3 ways:
[1] Fully ready [2] Partially ready [3] or, Not ready.
- 1.2.5.1. Will you be “ready”?
- 1.2.6. Adorn yourself with “Good Works”:
- 1.2.6.1. **Mt.5:16** “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your **good works** and glorify your Father in heaven.”
- 1.2.6.2. **1 Pet.2:12** “having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your **good works which they observe**, glorify God in the day of visitation.”
- 1.2.6.3. **1 Pet.5:5** “...be **clothed w/humility.**”
- 1.2.7. **(9) - A Special Blessing** is pronounced upon these called to the meal.
- 1.2.8. **(10) - Look at the response** of the 1 human who got a glimpse of this wedding feast...is this going to be an incredible wedding or what?
- 1.3. Note other similarities:
- 1.3.1. **(6) “Out of the wilderness”** - Explain mount Olivet divides wilderness from the city.
- 1.3.1.1. **Jesus 1st coming** to “purchase” His Bride, he came from the wilderness (Bethany) on donkey.
- 1.3.1.2. **Jesus 2nd coming** “w/His bride” He comes from Mt. Olivet (which separates the city from the wilderness even today)
- 1.3.2. **(7) Surrounded by “valiant men”** – Jesus will also be surrounded by valiant men/angels “**the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.**” (Rev.19:14)
- 1.3.3. **(11a) the crown** – Not the kings crown, one worn at weddings (wreath). This custom was abandoned at the fall of Israel in 70ad.
- 1.3.3.1. A rabbinic proverb states that “a bridegroom resembles a king.”

- 1.3.4. (11b) the gladness of the heart –
 - 1.3.4.1. **Zeph. 3:17** “The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; **He will rejoice over you with gladness**, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”
 - 1.3.4.2. **Jer.31:3** “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.”
- 1.3.5. “Find your delight in him today & the joys of heaven will be greater!”
(www)

3. **THE BEAUTIFUL BRIDE! (4:1-15)**

- 3.1. The wedding night! – He expresses “**you are fair my love!**”
 - 3.1.1. Here we read as “awkward onlookers!”
- 3.2. Experience His Love! – **How?**
 - 3.2.1. **[1]** Listen to what He **sees** in you **[2]** Listen to what He **feels** about you **[3]** Listen to what He **will make of you**.
- 3.3. Listen to what He **sees** in you! (1-8)
 - 3.3.1. **Don't** listen to what others say about you...they may misguide you.
 - 3.3.2. **Don't** listen to yourself...it may discourage you.
 - 3.3.3. **Do** listen to what Jesus say's about you...then you will find encouragement!
- 3.4. Listen to what He **feels** about you! (9-11)
 - 3.4.1. God has feelings. His Love is not mechanical.
 - 3.4.2. **What do we learn from this?** Communicate Love & express admiration for each other!
 - 3.4.2.1. Adoration & Actions Magnify Matrimony!
- 3.5. Listen to what He **will make of you!** (12-15)
 - 3.5.1. (12) He delights in her virginity.
 - 3.5.1.1. **See** also 1 Kings 1:4.
 - 3.5.1.2. **The words:** **enclosed**(Locked or barred); **shut up; sealed!** – This is how the bible talks about virginity!

- 3.5.1.3. Look at verse 15 – only for your husband is it time to “awaken love”.
- 3.5.1.4. **2nd virginity!** – Singles, don’t think “well I’ve already blown it...I didn’t wait!”
So, I guess it doesn’t matter now. It does, commit to purity now.
- 3.5.1.5. See the “**same terminology**” Solomon used in **Prov.5:15-23**.
 - 3.5.1.5.1. Farm in your own garden! – Israel fields along the road, long narrow section they were aloud to develop but clear boundaries!
- 3.5.1.6. “**Sex w/o marriage is cheap!**” (LAB)
- 3.5.2. **You are His unique garden & He is the loving Gardner!**
 - 3.5.2.1. He will **cultivate** your life & **make it fruitful** as you **commune** w/Him.¹
 - 3.5.2.2. **Rom. 7:4** “my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be **married to another**; to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should **bear fruit to God.**”

4. **THE RESPONSE! (4:16-5:1)**

- 4.1. (4:16) She expresses her desire to be completely his now.
 - 4.1.1. 3 candles symbolism at wedding 2 becoming one. (story of one young man watching & explains what the symbolism means ...” no more old flames”)
- 4.2. (5:1a) They consummate their love.
- 4.3. (5:1b) Usually a 7 day feast where all friends & relatives eat drink & be merry with the bride & groom.
 - 4.3.1. Here they are encouraging them in their love for one another.

¹ Warren Weirsbe