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.  
2) Negotiate Price. {That would be his blood}  
3) Now betrothed. {at salvation}  
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}  
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:

1.2.5.1. 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!”


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?
3.3.  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.
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.

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