

# “THE GREAT WEDDING APPROACHES”

## REVELATION 19:7-10

Pastor Keith E. Gephart

### INTRODUCTION

Illustration: 1) A wedding: lavish preparation, finery, joy, reception, feasting, celebration, etc.

- 2) Stages of a Jewish wedding: a. Betrothal; b. Pick up the bride at her father’s house  
c. Festivities at the Groom’s house

Scriptural References to the wedding in relation to the Second Coming:

- Mt. 22:1-14—Marriage of the King’s Son—people invited
- Lk. 14:15-24—The Great Supper and the people’s excuses
- Mt. 25:1-13—The 10 virgins—some prepared and some not
- Mt. 8:11 & Lk. 13:29—People from all directions to sit with Abraham and Isaac in the kingdom
- Mt. 26:29—Jesus to drink of the fruit of the vine in the Kingdom
- Isaiah 24:6-8—cessation of mirth and festivity prior to the coming of the Messiah

“Marriage” and “marriage supper” cannot be sharply distinguished; the same word is used for both, and both occur at the same time and place.

### YOU MUST BE PREPARED FOR THE GREAT MARRIAGE/MARRIAGE SUPPER—IT APPROACHES!

#### I. RECEPTION FOR THE BRIDE AND GROOM (7-9)

A. The Groom: \_\_\_\_\_; cf. Mt. 25—“The Bridegroom cometh.”

B. The Bride: \_\_\_\_\_

1. The Church—Eph. 5:25ff, 32; II Cor. 11:2
2. Israel—Is. 54:5-6; Jer. 31:32; Hos. 2:19-20  
Referred to both as “betrothed” and as “wife.”
3. The New Jerusalem—“Bride”—Rev. 21:2, 3, 9 (all saints); the consummation feast

#### C. The Wedding Garments (8)

Contrast the clothing of the Great Harlot in 17:4.

Cf. the person with no wedding garment in Mt. 22:11-13.

1. Source: \_\_\_\_\_

- 7:14—made white in Christ’s blood
- Eph. 5:25-27—an act of Christ

2. Substance: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

“She has made herself ready.” (v. 7)

3. Significance: \_\_\_\_\_

I John 3:2-3—We shall be like Him and see Him as he is; having such hope we purify selves.

Rev. 14:12—Saints persevere, keep their faith in Jesus and the commandments of God.

D. The Guests (9): \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ are they who are invited

Note: **“These are the true words of God”!**

- Likely no distinction intended between the Bride and the Guests—cf. parables—bride not even included in the story—Mt. 22, 25.

- Cf. Jesus as both the Shepherd and the Lamb—Rev. 7:17
- Guests are invited; the invitation is divine. Cf. Rev. 17:14; Mt. 22:3.
- If a distinction is intended, the earthly saints are likely the guests.

## II. RESPONSE OF GOD’S PEOPLE

### A. Rejoicing (7a)

- “Blessed”, the 4<sup>th</sup> beatitude in Revelation;
- The “rest” of 14:3 now is a high festival.

### B. Reverence (10)—“fell at his feet”; “worship”/prostrate yourself”

1. To God—not before angels or men (cf. 22:8; Acts 10:25)
2. Angels and men are “fellow-servants.”

### C. Revelation of Jesus (10)

1. Jesus’ testimony of Truth
2. Our testimony about Jesus

The Essence of Prophecy

Mediated by the Holy Spirit—Jn. 15:26-27

**Prophecy calls attention to our Lord—not to His servants!**

## CONCLUSION

Immediately after this description, Jesus is Revealed and Reveals Himself from Heaven!

These words are God’s True words (v. 9).

Worship Him (v. 10) and Rejoice—“Rejoice and be glad [emphatic] and give the glory to Him” (7)!

Let us make ourselves ready! (II Cor. 7:1)

**YOU MUST BE PREPARED FOR THE GREAT MARRIAGE/MARRIAGE SUPPER—IT APPROACHES!**