

The Lamb and His Bride

SCRIPTURE READING: Revelation 19:6-8

I. THE GREAT ANNOUNCEMENT.

- A. In Revelation 19:6-9, we see the great announcement of the marriage of the Lamb and His wife.
1. Let us first identify who is the Lamb. The Lamb is Jesus the Christ. To show this we need to go back to Revelation 5:4-12.
 - a. *"...stood a Lamb as though it had been slain,..."* (vs 6)
 - b. Those around the throne *"fell down before the Lamb,...and they sang a new song, saying: 'You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.'"* (vs 8-10)
 - c. The description of the Lamb as well as the praise offered fits the description of Jesus the Christ and His sacrifice for our sins.
 2. Let us now consider the wife's identity. There is a hint to her identity in Revelation 19:7-8.
 - a. The wife made herself ready. (vs 7)
 - b. The wife was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright. (vs 8)
 - c. The fine linen *"is the righteous acts of the saints."* (vs 8)
 - d. Knowing the wife's fine linen represented the *"righteous acts of the saints,"* we have a hint as to the identity of the wife of the Lamb.
- B. In Revelation 21:2-3, John sees the holy city, the New Jerusalem, prepared as a bride for her husband.
1. John wrote, *"2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and*

He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.” (Revelation 21:2-3)

2. John sees the holy city, New Jerusalem, prepared as a bride.
 3. The bride of the Lamb appears as the “New Jerusalem,” the holy city, the tabernacle of God.
- C. Later in Revelation, chapter 21, an angel shows John the bride, the Lamb’s wife. (Revelation 21:9-21)
1. The angel showed John *“the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God.”* (vs 10)
 2. The city is shown as something of great beauty, great size, and great value. The city is perfect. What John sees reflects the full culmination of God’s plan for the redemption of the faithful.
 3. In the New Jerusalem, there is no temple, *“for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.”* (Revelation 21:22; cf. 21:2-3)
 4. In the New Jerusalem, there is no need for the sun to shine, *“for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.”* (Revelation 21:23)

II. WHO IS THE BRIDE OF THE LAMB?

- A. As we have seen, the bride of the Lamb is the holy city, the New Jerusalem which descended out of heaven.
- B. In his letter to the churches of Galatia, the apostle Paul refers to the Jerusalem that is above. (Galatians 4:24-29)
- C. The book of Hebrews, we read that we have come to *“the heavenly Jerusalem.”* (Hebrews 12:22-24)
 1. Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem.
 2. An innumerable company of angels.
 3. General assembly and church of the first born who are registered in heaven.
 4. To God the judge of all.
 5. To the spirits of just men made perfect.
 6. To Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant.

7. To the blood of sprinkling.
- D. Jesus, in His letter to the church Philadelphia, said that He would write on the one who overcomes the name of the New Jerusalem. (Revelation 3:12)
- E. The bride of the Lamb is the church.
 1. "New Jerusalem" is a reference to the church, the body of Christ.
 2. As we have already seen, God and the Lamb are in the New Jerusalem. The apostle Paul helps us to see that in his letter to the church in Corinth. The apostle Paul writes about the church, *"16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are."* (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)
 3. In his letter to the church in Ephesus, Paul *speaks "concerning Christ and the church"* as a husband who loves His wife. (Ephesians 5:22-24, 25-33)

CONCLUSION.

- A. When we see the Lamb and His bride, we are looking at an image of Jesus and the church.
 1. Jesus died upon the cross, paying the price for our redemption.
 2. When we become a child of God, God adds us to the body of Christ, to the church, to the bride of Christ.
- B. John was told to write, *"Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!"* (Revelation 19:9)
 1. Will you accept the invitation to the marriage supper?
 2. Will you answer the gospel's call to salvation today?