

The Great Wedding Day Revelation 19:7-10

The record in Genesis makes clear that the first woman was created to be a companion to man. After Adam had named all the animals, God was looking for a companion for him and there wasn't any. No other mortal creature was found to be suitable for Adam. God met this need then by creating a woman from Adam's side. When Adam saw her, he responded with these words, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother and shall cleave unto his wife and they shall be one flesh." That is a far-reaching statement for the first husband to make. It reaches to us.

There are some conclusions we need to draw from Adam's statement. In the statement he said there must be a break. A man must leave his father and mother.

He also said there must be a harmony. That man who leaves his father and mother is to be joined unto his wife, to cleave unto his wife. That is harmony.

There is also contained in that statement an individuality--they, the two of them shall become one flesh. Yet they continue to be two. There is individuality.

And there is finally a unity, one flesh--neither is complete without the other. "Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh." A break, a harmony, an individuality and a unity were expressed in this statement by the first married man.

Whenever anyone loses this high view of marriage, he also loses the intention of the Creator for human happiness. Because of human perverseness, serious inroads have been made on this divine intention.

Now let us give attention to Revelation 19:7-10 for THE GREAT WEDDING DAY.

7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

The great wedding day will bring special ACTIONS which should stimulate us to new joy and hope.

The first Action; The Preparation of the Bride

The wedding announcement is first, the day has come, the marriage of the Lamb has come, that day has come. What long extended wait there was! But it was marked, it was marked on God's calendar. Be sure of that. And the bride has made herself ready--all necessary preparation.

Ah! This bride made herself ready and she was granted a wedding garment, a wedding dress. It almost sounds as though she was given this wedding dress. To her was granted that she should be

arrayed in fine linen. Could this be from the bridegroom? Oh yes, it could be, yes. It was a simple dress, a very simple dress. "Fine linen, clean and white.

I contrast that with the harlot described in chapter 17. "And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand." The bride of Christ has her dress that is clean and white, fine linen, a very simple wedding garment.

That great multitude that was saved out of the tribulation also had white garments. They wore robes, robes that reached to the ankles and they were washed and made white in the blood of the lamb.

The wedding dress is described as "linen, clean and white, for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints." That's personal righteousness, but not self-righteousness. We have the preparation of the bride, the wedding announcement and the wedding dress and everything is now ready.

The second Action; The Invitation to the Guests

It was a special message for the seer, John the Apostle, apparently almost forgot to write it down. So he had to be encouraged to write. He was told, "Write, blessed are they who are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb."

Well, who are these anyway? Who are these that are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb? The bride has made herself ready, so it can hardly be the bride. Without going into a long discussion let me point out that these most likely are Old Testament saints and tribulation saints, for the church of our particular age is constituted the bride of Christ--His wife.

And then there is a special confirmation, for John's informer says, "These are the true sayings of God."

I remember Jesus once gave a parable of a wedding. He said the guests were there, and among the guests was found a man who didn't have a wedding garment. He was asked how he got in and he was speechless. The governor of the wedding said, "Cast him out into outer darkness where there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

The second action for the great wedding day is the invitation to the guests, we believe they all have proper garments.

The third Action, The Adoration of John

When John saw and heard all this he was amazed. A wonderful climax it was to the destruction of the harlot and he was so overcome that he fell at the feet of his informer to worship. But he did wrong. He did wrong, because his informer said to him, "See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus." Likely this was an angel, his informer was an angel, a fellowservant. He said, "Worship God." Oh, that's always a true command, "Worship God." And then he added, "For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Yes, as it were, our Lord Jesus Christ marches across the pages of the Holy Bible. Almost everywhere you can find some reference to Him, from the first book to the last. He is the central object of all prophecy. The perfect God-man, the incarnate Son of God, the One who came to be our Saviour, and our Lord. The great wedding day will climax the long wait of the saints.

I want you to notice the sequence of this. Only when the harlot has been removed can this event take place. I believe that John recorded this in proper order. Maybe all the particulars are not given

about the wedding feast, but these actions are clear; the preparation for the bride, the invitation to the guests, and the adoration of John the apostle.

Now, my friend, you can have part in that the great wedding day. However, to have part then, you must prepare now. You must respond now to the Saviour's call.