



True Community: The Bride of Christ

Greg Wendschlag February 04, 2024

*"Wives, submit yourselves to your husbands as you do to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, His body, of which He is the Savior. Now **as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her** to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to Himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of His body. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a profound mystery—**but I am talking about Christ and the church.**" Eph. 5:22-32*

- The bride submits herself to her husband.
- The husband dies for his wife.
 - Makes her holy, cleansing her by washing with the Word.
 - Present her radiant, without stain, wrinkle, or blemish.
 - Presents her to Himself holy and blameless.
 - We are one with Him. He feeds and cares for us as His own flesh.

The Bride, the Groom and the Wedding

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." John 14:1-4

- The Engagement

"For God demonstrated His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8

"You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body." 1 Cor 6:19-20

- The Preparation

"For in just a very little while, "He who is coming will come and will not delay. But my righteous one will live by faith." Heb. 10:37-38

- The Return of the Groom

"Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and His bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) Rev. 19:6-8

- The Wedding

"I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He will live with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Rev 21:2-4

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