



The Church... The bride of Christ.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved
the church and gave himself up for her...

Ephesians 5:25

The Church...

- The Church refers to the spiritual and physical gathering of believers established by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ who purchased us at a price. (**1Corinthians 6:20**)
- Its Greek name Ekklesia meaning “Assembly” or “Called out ones”, comprises of all who have believed in our Lord Jesus Christ unto salvation. We are one body, with one Spirit, with one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all by the grace of Jesus Christ. (**Ephesians 4:4-7**)
- We are temples of God by the Holy Spirit in us. Living stones with Christ as our head and cornerstone. Chosen as royal priests, made holy as possessions of our God and called from darkness into His glorious light to proclaim His excellencies to all creation. (**Ephesians 1:13-14**)

The Bride of Christ...

25. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, 26. that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27. so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish... **Ephesians 5**

The picture of the Church as the Bride of Christ, expresses the intimate and covenantal relationship between Christ and His Church as it emphasizes love, unity, purity, and hope in the return of Christ. It also reminds us of our identity, mission, and ultimate end in eternal union with Christ.

The Bride of Christ...

- **Jesus fulfilled every demand as our bridegroom.** For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called... **Isaiah 54:5**
- **Like the parable of the ten virgins we must strive to be wise!!** For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure(wise) virgin to Christ... **2Corinthians 11:2**

Grounded in Jewish tradition our marriage to Christ has a period of selection, a period of payment, a period of preparation and a period of celebration of the return of the groom at a time that is only known by the Father of the groom.

The Marriage Supper of the Lamb...

7. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; 8. it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure” for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. 9. And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God... **Revelations 19**

The climax of our covenantal relationship with Christ shall be seen in the celebration of the faithfulness of the bride as the Bridegroom returns. He is returning for a bright and pure bride. A bride holding unto His word to the end. It for such as them that the new Jerusalem is being prepared to host.

Conclusion

20. He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! 21. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen...

Revelations 22

Maranatha... Come Lord. Come!!

Let us pray...