

Appendix M

Bride of Christ

By Richard

Here Jesus gives a profound revelation. He has been speaking figuratively on purpose because He only wants His bride—children--chosen ones—friends and servants to know the secrets of heaven. He does not want those REV 22:15 Outside (which) are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood” to enter into His precious perfect beautiful kingdom.

JN 16:16 "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me."

JN 16:17 Some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father'?" [18] They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying."

JN 16:19 Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me'? [20] I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. [21] A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. [22] So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. [23] In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. [24] Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

JN 16:25 "**Though I have been speaking figuratively, a time is coming when I will no longer use this kind of language but will tell you plainly about my Father.** [26] In that day you will ask in my name. I am not saying that I will ask the Father on your behalf. [27] No, the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. [28] I came from the Father and entered the world; now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father."

JN 16:29 Then Jesus' disciples said, "Now you are speaking clearly and without figures of speech. [30] Now we can see that you know all things and that you do not even need to have anyone ask you questions. This makes us believe that you came from God."

JN 16:31 "You believe at last!" Jesus answered. [32] "But a time is coming, and has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me.

JN 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

MT 13:10 The disciples came to him and asked, "**Why do you speak to the people in parables?**"

MT 13:11 He replied, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. [12] Whoever has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. [13] This is why I speak to them in parables:

**"Though seeing, they do not see;
though hearing, they do not hear or understand.**

**MT 13:14 In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah:
" `You will be ever hearing but never understanding;
you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.**

**MT 13:15 For this people's heart has become calloused;
they hardly hear with their ears,
and they have closed their eyes.
Otherwise they might see with their eyes,
hear with their ears,
understand with their hearts
and turn, and I would heal them.'**

MT 13:16 But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. [17] For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

God does this on purpose to keep evil out of heaven. So He continues to speak this way, which is why He speaks with ideas of the bride, because a bride is considered to be pure, holy, and without blemish. So He wants us to be. It is to show an example of something we can understand.

MT 25:1 "**At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins** who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish and five were wise. [3] The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. [4] The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. [5] The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

MT 25:6 "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

MT 25:7 "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. [8] The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'

MT 25:9 " 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'

MT 25:10 "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

MT 25:11 "Later the others also came. 'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!'

MT 25:12 "But He replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.'

MT 25:13 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

(Is this true or just an example? The ten virgins are the bride of Christ.)

JN 3:27 "To this John replied, "A man can receive only what is given him from heaven. [28] You yourselves can testify that I said, 'I am not the Christ but am sent ahead of him.' [29] **The bride belongs to the bridegroom.** The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for Him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. [30] He must become greater; I must become less."

REV 18:23 "The light of a lamp
will never shine in you again.

**The voice of Bridegroom and bride
will never be heard in you again.**

Your merchants were the world's great men.

By your magic spell all the nations were led astray."

(The fate of evil people)

REV 19:7 "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".

REV 19:8 "Fine linen, bright and clean,
was given her to wear."

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.)

REV 19:9 "Then the angel said to me, "Write: `Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' " And he added, "These are the true words of God."

REV 21:1 "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. [2] I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, **prepared as a bride beautifully dressed** for her husband. [3] 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. [4] **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 21:9 "One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, "**Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.**" [10] And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. [11] It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. [12] It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. [13] There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. [14] The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

(This is showing that Jerusalem is the bride and wife of the Lamb.)

REV 22:12 "Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with Me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. [13] I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

REV 22:14 "Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. [15] Outside

are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

REV 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star."

REV 22:17 "The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life."

EPH 5:22 "Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. [23] 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. [24] Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything."

(This is showing how the physical and the spiritual relationships are a like.)

EPH 5:25 "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her [26] to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the Word, [27] and to present her to Himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. [28] In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. [29] After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church-- [30] for we are members of his body. [31] "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." [32] This is a profound mystery--but I am talking about Christ and the church. [33] However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband."

This is all that I could find on the bride of Christ or the Lamb of God (Jesus). It is to show relationships by metaphor and simile and not true physical life style with Jesus or God. It is to show the true relationship of the church—the body of Christ and God. What He is willing to do as the husband and what the church (whole not partial) needs to be willing to do for their husbands—bridegrooms—their God.

All that God is trying to show here is how He cherishes us and how He loves us by showing us that we are like the bride to the groom and how he cherishes her and care for her and loves her. That is all there is. There are many more metaphor and simile in the bible, because often times that it takes many ways of description for people to understand how God feels about us and cares for us.

