

The Church His Bride Sunday 05-10-2020

Matthew 16:16-18 (NKJV) And Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." {17} Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. {18} "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

I Jesus is Returning for His Bride

- **1 Thessalonians 5:1-2 (NKJV)** But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. {2} For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night.
- **2 Peter 3:9-10 (NKJV)** The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. {10} But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

II The Bride and Bridegroom long to be with each other

- **Revelation 22:17 (NKJV)** And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. And whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.
- **Song of Songs 2:10-13 (NKJV)** My beloved spoke, and said to me: "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. {11} For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. {12} The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. {13} The fig tree puts forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grapes give a good smell. rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away!
- **Revelation 7:13-17 (NKJV)** Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" {14} And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. {15} "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. {16} "They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; {17} "for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

III The Church has always been Advancing the Kingdom

- I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail
- Throughout history
- In the hardest times
- Even today the Church of Jesus Christ is advancing
- WE are members of this great body and we are displaying the glory of God

IV His Bride is beautiful and looking better every day

- **Revelation 19:7-8 (NKJV)** "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." {8} And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

(Over)

- **Revelation 3:4-5** (NKJV) "You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. {5} "He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

V She is wearing Holiness and reflecting God's Love

- **1 Corinthians 13:1-7** (NKJV) Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become as sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. {2} And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. {3} And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. {4} Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; {5} does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; {6} does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; {7} bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

VI Who is this Bride?

- Betrothed to the King of Kings
- Purchased with the costly Blood of Jesus
- **Ephesians 5:25-27** (NKJV) Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, {26} that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, {27} that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.

VII Who is this Bridegroom?

- **Song of Songs 5:16** (NKJV) His mouth is most sweet, yes, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem!
- A friend who stays closer than a brother
- A friend of sinners, helper of the helpless, comforter to the hurting
- He is Holy (the creatures around the throne: never ending Holy Holy Holy
- King of Kings, Lord of Lords The Soon coming Judge of the living and the dead
- **Revelation 1:12-16** (NKJV) Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, {13} and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. {14} His head and His hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; {15} His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; {16} He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.
- **Revelation 19:11-16** (NKJV) Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. {12} His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. {13} He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. {14} And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. {15} Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. {16} And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.