June 2, 2020

The Names of Love - Part 33 - Jesus The Bridegroom, Husband

Rev. 19:6-9 "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.) 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."

This name of Jesus literally means "Our Husband and Bridegroom."

John 14:1-6 shows us the picture of betrothal as Jesus was preparing His disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that 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." Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I AM the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Now to any Jewish person of that time, they would immediately recognize the wording that Jesus was using here in this passage. It was the betrothal statement that would be made by a bridegroom to his intended. When the marriage was determined (usually by the fathers of the son and daughter), the process of the bridegroom would begin. In that day, the "houses" that people typically lived in were called "insulas" - they were more like apartments all under one roof. When a young man was to be married, he would begin the project of "adding on" to His father's house. This would be the place where he and his bride would reside. In the "building on" of this residence, he would check with his father continuously to see if what he was building was acceptable and he would wait for the okay from his father that it was. When it was complete and ready, the father would say, "Go and get your bride." Many times the period from the betrothal and the actual marriage would be almost a year. The bride would be told to be ready, for at any moment, the bridegroom might come to get her and take her home.

This is the picture Jesus had given His disciples. I love what Keith Green once said, "If God made all of the universe in six days, and He has been working on my place for over two thousand years; man, what a place that is going to be!"

When that happens, there will be a feast in Heaven for the Bridegroom Jesus and the Bride - His Church. Will you be ready? Will you have oil in your lamp? I pray you will.

Dear Jesus, my Bridegroom, Thank You for preparing the way for us. You love us so much, in fact, more than anyone else could ever love us! I look forward to the day that You will call Your bride home to be with You. I love you! In Jesus Name, Amen