

Pastor Clifford
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Buy From Me Gold (Part 11):
The Marriage Supper of The Lamb

John 16:25-28 "I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. **26** In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; **27** for 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 have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father."

Mark 4:11-12 "And he said to them, "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables, **12** so that "they may indeed see but not perceive, and may indeed hear but not understand, lest they should turn and be forgiven."

- **For now I am leaving and going to the Father**

John 16:29-33 "His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! **30** Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God." **31** Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? **32** Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. **33** I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

- **But take heart; I have overcome the world.**

Jesus' desire was to eat this last meal with His disciples.

Luke 22:14-16 "And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. **15** And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. **16** For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

Jesus is taking advantage of the Passover to reveal:

- The prophetic significance of the church as His bride.
- The revelation of the New Covenant
- The Marriage Supper of the Lamb

- **The prophetic significance of the church as His bride**

John 3:29-30 "The one who has the bride is the bridegroom. The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly at the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is now complete. **30** He must increase, but I must decrease."

- **The Revelation of the Covenant!**

Luke 22:20 "And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

Jeremiah 31:31-34 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, **32** not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. **33** For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God,

and they shall be my people. **34** And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

- **The marriage supper of the Lamb!**

Revelation 19:7 "For the marriage of the Lamb has come."

Lets look at some aspects of the typical Hebraic wedding:

1. Betrothal
2. Wedding Ceremony
3. Consummation

1. Betrothal: The groom would prepare a covenant to present to the bride and her family.

- The covenant was a monetary commitment that represented the loss of her gain in the family.
- It demonstrated responsibility on his part.
- It was a commitment from him to provide, nurture and love her.

In Hebraic tradition he would pour a cup of wine and if she and the family was agreeable she would take the cup and drink in reflection of her acceptance. This is a picture of what Jesus did at the last Passover supper with His disciples offering them this new covenant. It was essentially a reflection of what He was willing to pay.

Matthew 26:26-29 "Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." **27** And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, **28** for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **29** I tell you I will not drink again of

this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

When a person surrenders his or her life to the Lord they in essence are betrothed to Him.

2 Corinthians 11:2 "For I feel a divine jealousy for you, since I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ."

Preparation of the bride for the ceremony. Jesus washes nourishes and cherishes His bride to become ready.

John 13:10 "Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean And you are clean."

John 15:3-4 "Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in me, and I in you."

Ephesians 5:25-32 "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. **32** This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church."

2. The wedding ceremony: After a period of time as the couple are enjoying the betrothal period the father of the groom will signify that the bridal chamber is ready something the groom has been laboring for probably a year.

Jesus promised He would ascend to His Father to prepare a place for us.

John 14:1-4 "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. **2** In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. **4** And you know the way to where I am going."

The wedding ceremony is celebrated with a feast. Family and friends are invited to share in the festivities of the couple and bless them as a new family. Jesus also promised a feast for His bride.

It begins with His return for His bride.

John 14:3 "I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also."

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 "For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. **18** Therefore encourage one another with these words."

Revelation 19:6-8 "Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God Almighty reigns. 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; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints."

It culminates with the wedding feast.

Revelation 19:9 "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."

Isaiah 25:6-9 "On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.⁷ And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.⁸ He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.⁹ It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Paul spoke of a veil of spiritual darkness:

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 "In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

3. The final aspect of the marriage, the consummation: This is where the couple retire to their new home and begin living their life together in intimacy and forming a one flesh union.

Ephesians 5:31-33 "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." **32** This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. **33** However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband."

Revelation 21:1-6 "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no

more. **2** And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. **4** He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."**5** And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." **6** And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment."