## The Bride of Christ

The Bride of Christ is what's known as the church or the body of believers. It is all people who truly believe and trust in what Jesus did for us on the cross when he died for our sins, and rose again the third day. We are to be presented to Christ at the rapture as a pure virgin, without spot, or blemish, ready for the wedding.

Traditionally in a wedding, the groom would not see the bride for a certain amount of time before the wedding, much like in the church age we are in right now upon writing this on Sep 26, 2020. The church age is almost over and when it is, the bridegroom (Jesus) will come rapture his bride out of this world, we will go to heaven and receive our eternal bodies.

#### 2 Corinthians 11:2

2

For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

### Matthew 25:1-13

1

Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

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And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

3

They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

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But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

5

While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

6

And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

7

Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

8

And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

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But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

10

And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.

11

Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

12

But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

You may be thinking, how do you know that Jesus is the bridegroom? Well, if you look at the book of Luke chapter five, you will find Jesus talking about himself in a parable when the bridegroom shall be taken away.

#### Luke 5:35

35

But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast in those days.

In the New Testament, in the book of Ephesians, Paul talks about how we as the church, are much like a wife unto her husband. The scriptures here give us a very clear picture that the true believers in Christ are the bride and we need to give ourselves to him.

# Ephesians 5:23-27

23

For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24

Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25

Husbands, love your wives, even 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.

In traditional Jewish weddings, the bride and the bridegroom would go away after the wedding for seven days and not see anyone else but each other. They would lock themselves away and spend time together, just the two of them.

This is a very clear example of a pre-tribulation rapture. Jesus the bridegroom is coming back to rapture his bride (the church) away and spend seven years with her. In Old Testament prophecy, a day can be a year, (Numbers 14:34 and also Ezekiel 4:6.)

We are the bride of Christ and we all need to be ready now for his return because it could happen at any moment.