

The Bride Making Herself Ready

Sunday Service, 16th July 2023

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1 Peter 3:1-6

1 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;

² While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.

³ Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel;

⁴ But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.

⁵ For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands:

⁶ Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.

Revelation 19:7

⁷ Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

The Marriage Of The Lamb Is Come

62-0121E — The Marriage Of
The Lamb

53 And, that, we know that
there is going to be a Bride,

and there's going to be a wedding supper served in the skies. That's just as sure to be, as God is, because it's His Word.

And we know that those that are going to make up that Bride is going to be His Church, and they're going to appear before Him without spot or wrinkle.

And they have the material on earth now to make themselves ready. If you notice, It said, “She has made herself ready.”

Matthew 22:2-13

² The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,

³ And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.

⁴ Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.

⁵ But they made light of it,
and went their ways, one to
his farm, another to his
merchandise:

⁶ And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.

⁷ But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.

⁸ Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.

⁹ Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.

¹⁰ So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

¹¹ And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:

¹² And he saith unto him,
Friend, how camest thou in
hither not having a wedding
garment? And he was
speechless.

¹³ Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness, there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

The Materials For The
Wedding Garment
Are Ready

Call Them That Were
Bidden

Busy With Own
Traditions

63-1028 — Pardon

108 Traditions in them days, the great prophet cried out, and he said, “Your traditions are powerless. They stink before Me. Have no faith in them.”

The people was offering these offerings, without even having faith in what they're doing.

109 Now let's just ask ourself the question. Isn't that something like today? As bad as we hate to say it, we've got to face facts somewhere. There is something wrong somewhere.

110 Why, this Church ought to be a million miles up the road, to where it is now. Jesus is waiting on His Church to get ready. “His Bride has made herself ready.” We got the potentials. The Holy Spirit is here.

God is here, the power to heal the sick, the power to do all the things that Christ did. I've seen it demonstrated, myself, by the Holy Spirit. So, the potentials are here.

111 What God is waiting
for us to get away from, is
our traditions, and come
back under the Blood of His
Son, Jesus Christ,

and become the Church of
the living God. Methodist,
Baptist, Lutheran,
Presbyterian, whatever
more, “Whosoever will may
come and take of the
waters of Life freely.”

I believe that with all that's
in me. We...God has sent
down the Holy Spirit to do
that.

~The bridegroom is
prepared

~The material are ready

~God is waiting for our
action

62-0121E — The Marriage Of
The Lamb

56 You see, God could not push
us through a little pipe, pull us
out on the other end,

and then saying, “Blessed is
he that overcometh.” You
had nothing to overcome;
He just pushed you
through.

But you've got to make
decisions for yourself. I
have to make decisions for
myself. In doing that, we
show our faith and respects
to God.

57 Abraham was promised a child, but he must maintain this promise for twenty-five years, the ups-and-downs that he had, and temptations, in those twenty-five years. But he held to the word of the promise.

58 And Israel was promised
a promised land, but they
had to fight for every inch
of it. “Wherever the soles
of your foot treads upon,

that have I given you,” God
said to Joshua. It was all
there. The land was there,
and God gave it to them,
but they must fight for it.

59 The same way it is about
Divine healing. God has got
the power to heal you, if
you've got the courage to
accept it, but you'll fight
every inch of the way.

60 God has got amazing
grace to save you, and He
will do it, but you'll fight
every inch of your way.

61 I been behind the pulpit,
going on thirty-one years,
and every inch of that has
been a fight, constantly. It
certainly has.

62 “But we must fight if we must reign.” So we find out that the Bride has to make Herself ready.

“Be willing to lay aside
every weight that does so
easily beset us, that we
might run with patience the
race that’s set before us.”

We must lay them aside,
ourselves. We can't say, "God,
You come, lay them aside
for us." We got to do that,
ourselves.

We Have To Be
Overcomers

Revelation 3:21

²¹ To him that overcometh
will I grant to sit with me in
my throne, even as I also
overcame, and am set down
with my Father in his throne.

63-0825M — How Can I
Overcome?

35 Now, as we study this, my purpose of this is just not to come here to—to fellowship with you people.

Which, I love to do that. But if—if I had a chance to do that, I would come to your home, and shake your hand and talk with you,

and set down, eat dinner
with you; and set down,
under the shade tree, and
talk and fellowship a while.
But when we come here, we
are here for one specific
purpose.

This is the house of
correction. This is the throne.
This is the throne of God,
and judgment goes forth
from the house of God.

And here is where we come together, gather in love, with one another, as only Christians can love. But, in here, we are—we are under a—a—a—a leadership of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Ghost is among us.
And we're here to be...to
take reckoning among us, to
see where our short places
are, our shortcomings,

and how can we catch from
where we should be, over to
where we ought to be now;
where we are, and where we
ought to be.

And that's what we study.
Ministers study those places,
for their people. When they
see the people, the lack, then
they begin on that.

63-0825M — How Can I Overcome?

64 Now let's talk of a few overcomers for a few minutes, in the days of Noah's time, which was typed by Jesus Christ, of being like today.

I suppose to have ten minutes. Now I'll be a half hour. I just getting started, the first page. I'll skip a few of them, if I can, and get what...

65 In Noah's time, type of today: Jesus referred to it, and said, "As it was in Noah's time, so shall it be in the Coming of the Son of man. In Noah's time, so shall it be in the Coming of the Son of man."

Notice, there were all that antediluvian world, perhaps of millions of people, there was eight overcomers. Eight people overcome, that was real, genuine overcomers.

There was Noah's three sons and their wives, and Noah and his wife. Eight overcome, that entered the ark at the appropriate time.

How did they do it? They
listened to the Word of
God. They wasn't caught
outside the door. They were
caught inside the door.

66 Oh, my beloved friends,
don't let that door shut.

Jesus said, "As it was in that
day, so shall it be in the
Coming of the Son of man."
(Thank you, brother.)

“So shall it be in the Coming
of the Son of man.” Now,
there’s somebody is going to
get caught outside that
door.

Many of them might have
had good intentions,

and, “Some day, if such things happen, we’ll go in with Brother Noah, ’cause he’s a fine fellow.” But, you see, it caught just eight inside.

67 Now, think hard now. If you are laying around, getting doty, get in. Hurry, quick, 'cause the door might close at any time.

68 And there's always been an ark in God's economy. There was an ark in the days of Noah, for the saving of His people.

There was an ark in the days of the law, ark of testimony.

In the days of the law, they followed the ark.

And there is a third dispensation now;

like Noah's time, Lot's time,
and now this time.

There is an ark now. And that
ark is not a denomination,
neither is it a good works
that you do.

It's "by one Spirit," Romans 8:1, "we are all baptized into one Body, in the domain of that Kingdom, one Spiritual baptism."

No matter how good, how bad, whatever, you're in that Kingdom by—by Holy Ghost baptism. See? That's the only way you overcome.

It's all that is under the shed
Blood is overcomers, 'cause
you cannot overcome,
yourself. It's He that
overcome for you. You're
resting.

72 The thing you have to overcome is yourself, your idea, your thing, and surrender yourself to Him. He overcome for you. He knows the way; we don't.

60-0729 — What It Takes To
Overcome All Unbelief: Our Faith
52 Right after that, or before
that, previous to that, He gave
the great 11th chapter of
Hebrews which gives the heroes
of faith,

“By faith Moses, by faith Abraham, by faith Enoch, by faith Noah.” All the great heroes of faith, then saying,

“Seeing that we are compassed about with such a great cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin (the unbelief) that does so easily besets us.”

Here we are tonight right in the shadows of the coming of the Son of God, and yet, we find the church in anemic condition. We ought to be great, strong, mighty warriors of faith, that would shake a nation.

God gives it to us. We would just receive it. So there's little things upon us that holds us back from running.

Let's lay aside all those little weights now, because we're looking to the Author and Finisher of our faith, Jesus Christ, Who was made man on earth, and dwelt among us,

and was made sin, that through His righteousness we might be forgiven of our sins. He became us, sinners, that we might become His righteousness.

In other words, like this, He
became me that I might become
Him. He was the Son of God; I
was a sinner. He took my place,
became a sinner, that I might be
a Son of God.

And when we see that, it ought to attract the attention of every man and woman, to lay aside every little skeptic talk.

Oh, I love that. Lay aside every weight, and the little unbelief that does so easily beset us.

Some little something come up, and we say, “Well, I never heard of that before.” Search it out in the Scripture, if it’s the Bible, stay with it.

The Process Of Marriage After Overcoming The World

62-0121E — The Marriage ⁸⁸Of The Lamb

65 I think that's what's the matter with the Church, the Bride today, that's made up of all churches that believes in Christ.

It's not the church building,
neither is it the organization
or the denomination, but it's
the individuals that's in the
church that makes the Bride.

Decision Making

62-0121E — The Marriage Of The Lamb

83 And that's the same way
it is by making the decision
for Christ.

The first thing you have to do, is make up your mind whether you're going to serve God and take Him as your Saviour, or you're not going to do it.

Are you going to serve the world? Are you going to serve Christ? You have to make up your mind. There has to be a decision made.

When you make up your mind, that you're either going to serve God or mammon, then you take your choice. But the decision has to be made.

84 And then, after the decision is made, that you are, then comes the engagement. That, you find that at the altar. You've got to make an engagement before this union can be.

And that's the way it is with Christ's Church. It has to be an engagement with Christ, a—a pledge, an engagement, a love affair.

Promise

62-0121E — The Marriage Of The Lamb

85 And then, the next thing,
is—is promises made. There has
to be promises made to one
another, like that you make
promise.

“Sweetheart, if you’ll marry me, I promise that I’ll be loyal and true. I will look upon no other woman.” Or, “I’ll look upon no other man. And I’ll do all that as a duty, as a wife.

We have children, it'll do all as a duty as a—as a mother. I—I'll be a housekeeper.” All these promises has got to be made, or should be, in a correct wedding.

86 And that's the same thing when you come to Christ. "Lord, if You will receive me into Your Kingdom, I promise." There you are.

“I’ll love You. I’ll be true to You. I’ll serve You, day and night.” It’s too bad we forget that. “I’ll serve You, day and night. I’ll fast.

I'll pray. I'll be loyal to You. I'll bring my tithings into the storehouse. I—I'll—I'll pray, many times a day. I'll—I'll do anything.

And I'll pledge all my love to You." That's what you should do. That's exactly right, where you promise that, and it should come from your heart.

62-0121E — The Marriage Of The Lamb

89 And when we take our pledge to Christ, if we don't become part of Him, like a woman ought to become part of a man and a man part of the woman,

then we're artificial
Christians. We're not, really.
You're really not married to
that woman. You might be
loyal. If you don't love your
husband,

and him sixty or seventy years old, and you don't love him as good as you did at the beginning, then you're really just raising his children.

90 That's the way the churches are, too many today. We're just taking the name of the "Christian Church," pretending to be the Bride.

When, it's artificially. We're not connected with Christ in any way. We're like an artificial tooth, artificial arm, artificial eye.

See? It's something that's artificial if we're just putting it on. Well, you can't put on Christianity. You've got to be connected with it.

91 And then a church that's just artificial, called the church of Christ, well, them children then are not in There, that's born of that same organization.

Is only...They're not Christ's children. They are denominational children, and not children of Christ.

92 If the woman isn't connected with the man in trueness, then it isn't her husband. It's just a man she's taken a vow to live with,

and she took a wrong vow.
She pledged to love him, and
she said she loved him, and
she didn't do it. All the time,
the man is deceived.

93 But there's one thing
sure, friends, we're not going
to deceive Christ. He knows
His own.

94 But, you see, first,
decisions made. Next,
engagement. Then, promise.

62-0211 — Oneness

34 Now, the Church now is engaged to Christ for the wedding. The wedding has never been performed yet, it will be at the Wedding Supper of the Lamb.

So, we see that the Church is now engaged, like a man engaged to his wife. What does he do while they're engaged?

He's just bestowing all kinds of things, sending her presents, making her feel good. Well, that's what Christ is doing to His Church. He's sending us gifts of the Spirit.

How can you be engaged then when you're denying these gifts exist? It's the very love tokens. It's God's token to the Church. Jesus said so, "These signs shall follow them that believe."

35 Now, keep those things in mind. The Church must believe every Word, every promise, every iota, and claim It for themselves, and exercise themselves in It.

If I was engaged to a girl, and
I was a single man, and I'd
send her something, an
engagement ring,

and she wouldn't wear it,
then that shows she doesn't
believe me. She—she—she
doesn't want to be my bride.

And if Christ sends His church the gifts that He promised, and they refuse them and say “they’re not so,” they don’t want to be the Bride of Christ.

They are espoused to some other lover, and not to Christ, the Bridegroom. So the real Church keeps the promise, and keeps all, and accepts the gifts that God sends them. All right.

Ceremony

62-0211 — Oneness

95 See, she was already to be mother. And that never...only what it did, was clear up the thing of the serpent's seed. "The seed that's in you now is by conceived,

your unlawful act against My Word, with this thing here, and you are now got the serpent's seed. But I'll give you a seed by immaculate conception,

and His Seed shall bruise the serpent's head, and his head shall bruise the heel." Amen. Just let God have it, if it's His Word He'll bring It to pass.

~The Bride Takes The
Bridegroom's Name

~Bride Has Taken Up
The Material

~She Is All Ready For
The Husband

Taking The Bridegroom's Name

62-0211 — Oneness

96 That's the reason you've got to be in union with God. That's the reason that Peter said on the Day of Pentecost,

after Jesus said “baptize them in the Name of the Father, Son, Holy Ghost,” Peter turned around and said “baptize them in the Name of Jesus Christ,”

because the Name of the
Father, Son and Holy Ghost
is the Lord Jesus Christ. See
that? It takes a union.

Uniting With Christ
To Be One Thing

65-1125 — The Invisible Union
Of The Bride Of Christ

52 But then watch again to the spiritual Church, how that group of people, called out, the Elected, through every revival.

In Martin Luther, it happened
the same way in the
Reformation. It happened
the same thing in the time of
John Wesley.

It happened the same thing when Pentecostal first started. They dropped them women right back in line with the Word, and then they drift away.

There she goes right back over into chaos. But then the time that the people are ready to line up, there is a Message comes forth, and they line with It.

54 Now, but you notice, when the people begin to try to line with the Word, there comes a fresh Message from the Word of God, right straight to the people.

And they catch that Message
and line up, every time. It's
just in God's...We have that.

65-1125 — The Invisible Union
Of The Bride Of Christ

57 So is the church, when she tries to mix creed and denomination with the Word of God.

She can't be married to a denomination, and be the Bride of Christ, at the same time. She's got to be dead to one or the other. The law says so, here.

There's plenty of laws in God's Word. And that's His law, Paul speaking the same thing here. She cannot be married to a church of worldly creed,

and be the Bride of Christ,
because she...one is contrary
to the other. Now,
remember.

Say, “Well, we believe this,
but we don’t believe That.”

58 If you're married to Christ, Christ is the Word of God. In Saint John, the 1st chapter, said, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,

and the Word was God. And the same was made flesh and dwelt among us.” Christ was the living Word. He always was the Word.

He is still the Word. He always will be the Word. He was only the manifestation of the attributes of God, for He was the Son of God.

65-1125 — The Invisible Union
Of The Bride Of Christ

59 And any son is the
attributes of his father, and
just as you were in the genes
of your father,

in the body of your father when he was a young boy, you were in him. Yet, he could not have fellowship with you, because he didn't know you.

But then, through the bedding grounds of a mother, you were brought forth into the earth and become in the image of your father, then he could fellowship with you.

60 And so were you, sons of
God and daughters of God,
before there even was a
moon, stars, or a molecule.

You were sons and daughters of God, for you are only the physical manifestation of the attributes that was in God at the beginning.

For, there's only one form of Eternal Life, and that was you, before. You don't know nothing about it. Neither did you know when you was in your earthly father,

but you are manifested
to...in his image. In the
image of God you are made,
and you were manifested for
the glory and the fellowship
of God.

61 And, therefore, as sure as your gene had to be in your father, before your natural birth, your spiritual gene had to be in God,

because you're an expression
of the attributes of His
thoughts, before the
foundation of the world.
Right.

No way around it. That's right. Now, now we notice, then, that Life being in you, God's Life being in you, from the foundation of the world.

62 Now, now, you cannot mix denomination creed with the Word, because they're too contrary, one to the other.

63 That's exactly what Satan tried to do with his intellectual conception to Eve. He said...he admitted that God said it, but he said, "Surely, you'll not die." See? And they believe that.

64 And that's what creed has done, tonight. Denomination has separated the people from the Word of God.

Didn't Jesus say, when He come, "You, through your tradition, have made the Commandments of God of no effect to the people"?

And through our creed, we have disassociated the fellowship of the Holy Spirit to anoint the Word of God that's laced out for this generation.

We have separated the people so, by denomination, that they cannot have a chance to see it.

~Recognizing Who
We Are Once United
With Christ
~Manifesting Christ