

End of the Bride and Bridegroom Mystery

Biblical evidence for the physical return of Lord Jesus Christ and pre-tribulation Rapture of his followers

The below compares the traditional biblical Jewish wedding ceremony to the mystery of the biblical bride/groom and Rapture of the church. As you will see, there is a direct parallel between the two. In fact, a person cannot understand the events that are on the horizon unless they understand the traditional biblical ceremonial rituals of the Jewish wedding. Also, God's six literal days of creation with the seventh Sabbath day of rest appears to directly correspond to the six thousand years since the creation of the earth until this time period, which will usher in the Sabbath thousand years of peace – the literal millennial reign of Lord Jesus Christ on Earth. Those who have separated themselves from Jewish customs, the Jewish apostles, God's 7th day Sabbath (Saturday), and the important correlations between the Old Testament and New Testament, will be blinded to the truth.

The Traditional Ancient Jewish Wedding

1. **Bride Located and Marriage Covenant** / The Betrothal / *Ketubah*. Payment of the **purchase price**; Bride set apart (sanctified); sealed agreement.
†Old Testament References: *Genesis 29:20, Genesis 29:27, Genesis 34:12, Genesis 24:52-53, Genesis 24:4-8, Exodus 22:16-17, Deuteronomy 20:7, Deuteronomy 22:29, Hosea 2:19-20.*
2. Bridegroom **departs to Father's House** and **prepares room addition**. Bride prepares for his **imminent surprise return**.
†Old Testament References: *Genesis 29, Genesis 24.*
3. Bride ritually **cleanses** herself / *Mikveh*, **physically** and **spiritually**, prior to the wedding.
†Old Testament References: *Isaiah 61:10, Jeremiah 2:32, Isaiah 49:18.*
4. Surprise gathering, which commences the Wedding / *Huppah*. The Groom is **told by his Father when to go, surprise, and get his Bride**. The **Groom doesn't know what day or hour**, since **the Father determines when things are ready** to his satisfaction (when the room addition and other things are ready).
†Old Testament References: *Psalms 45:8-15.*

A new name given for the Bride (last name is changed).
†Old Testament References: *Genesis 17:1-5, Genesis 17:15-16, Genesis 32:28.*
5. **Seven-day feast (7-days)** for the Marriage Supper, known as the *Sheva Berachot*, literally '**seven blessings**'
†Old Testament References: *Judges 14:12, Judges 14:10, Isaiah 25:6-10.*
6. **First-year of marriage** / *Shana Rishona*. After the first seven days of *Sheva Brachot*, there is also a concept known as '*Shana Rishona*' or 'The first-year'. During the first year of marriage, the couple, if possible, should **never spend a night apart**. They should not invite guests for Shabbat (which is another word for the Sabbath day), and a soldier should not go to war (**no wars**).
†Old Testament References: *Deuteronomy 24:5*
7. Additional restrictions are removed and the **normal marriage life begins**. In the very first marriage, we are told that Eve was created as a helper to Adam and that the two become one, which is elaborated on in Ephesians 5:22-33. This began a new adventure for the couple.
†Old Testament References: *Genesis 2:18, 24*

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The Marriage Fulfilled between Jesus (Bridegroom) and Jesus' followers (Bride)

1. **Bride Located** by Holy Spirit and **Marriage Covenant**. Jesus (Bridegroom) pays the **purchase price** on the cross; Bride set apart (sanctified); sealed agreement.
†New Testament fulfillment: *John 14:26, John 16:7, John 16:13, Romans 8:9, Romans 8:15, Acts 1:8, Acts 2:1-5, Acts 20:28, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 1 Corinthians 11:25, Ephesians 5:25-27.*
2. Jesus **departs to Father's House** and **prepares a room addition** (a place); leaves Holy Spirit (God-Helps/Supports) while he is away. The Bride prepares for his **imminent surprise return**.
†New Testament fulfillment: *Acts 1:9-12, John 14:2-3, Matthew 24:36, Matthew 24:42-44, Matthew 25:13, Matthew 25:1-46, 1 Corinthians 15:52.*
3. Bride (Christ's followers) ritually **cleanse** themselves **physically** (baptism) and **spiritually** (sanctification - focuses on becoming more holy) prior to the wedding. The Bible has at least 84 verses on becoming holy.
†New Testament fulfillment: *Luke 3:16, Matthew 3:13-17, Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 1:4-5, Mark 16:16, Romans 6:3-6, 1 Corinthians 12:13, Galatians 3:27, 1 Peter 3:21, Ephesians 5:25-27, 1 Corinthians 1:2, 1 Corinthians 6:11, Hebrews 10:10, Hebrews 13:12.*
4. The Groom (Jesus) is **told by his Father when to go, surprise**, and **get his Bride** (followers). The **Groom (Christ) doesn't know what day or hour**, since **the Father determines when things are ready** to his satisfaction. In 1 Corinthians 15:52 (KJV) it says *"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."* Then in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 (KJV), *"For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."*
†New Testament fulfillment: *Matthew 24:36, Matthew 24:42-44, Matthew 25:13, Matthew 25:1-46, 1 Corinthians 15:52, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17.*

A new name is given to the Bride, for those who follow God.
†New Testament fulfillment: *John 1:42, Revelation 2:17, Revelation 3:12, John 17:23-26.*
5. **Seven-day feast (7-years)** off of the earth (Rapture), between Bride and Groom while tribulation and the Great Tribulation occurs. The Book of Revelation has at least 54 instances where sevens are mentioned.
†New and Old Testament fulfillment: *Matthew 9:15, Matthew 22:11-14, John 2:1, (3½ years Daniel 12:7), (42 months Revelation 11:2; 13:5), (1260 days Revelation 11:3; Daniel 12:6).*
6. **First-year of marriage (1,000-years)** of residing with Jesus (Groom) and Followers (Bride) in the millennial kingdom on Earth. They **never spend a night apart**, during which time there will be **no wars**. This is the **Sabbath rest of the Lord** with his Bride. *"But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."* 2 Peter 3:8 (KJV). Just as Adam died within one-day / one-thousand-years when he ate the forbidden fruit, *"And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died."* Genesis 5:5 (KJV). See also Genesis 2:17, Numbers 14:34, and Ezekiel 4:6.
†New Testament fulfillment: *Revelation 20:1-15, Romans 8:39, Revelation 3:12, Revelation 7:16, Revelation 20:3.*
7. The beginning of the long marriage when Heaven and Earth are remade; **normal marriage life begins**. A new adventure.
†New Testament fulfillment: *Revelation 21:1.*

Below is a 'type' and 'foreshadowing' of a greater event – End Times Events

Abraham = The Father
Isaac = The Son
Eleazar = The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is sent to gather the Bride for the Son. The name *Eleazar* means 'comforter' or 'God-Helps/Supports' and Eleazar's name is not mentioned in the same section, just like the name of the Holy Spirit is not known. The Holy Spirit is always portrayed as an unnamed servant. This is also like the story of Ruth and Boaz. Read all of Matthew 22.

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