

God Is Our Husband; Jesus Is Our Bridegroom

We, the Church Are His Bride

September 17, 2017

God is our husband

OT word for Husband is Ish; It is used 5 times as a Title or Name for God.

God is faithful despite our unfaithfulness; We will call the Lord "my husband"

Hos 2:16 "It will come about in that day," declares the LORD, "that you will call Me Ishi (my husband) And will no longer call Me Baali (my master, or my Baal).

Hos 2:17-18 "For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, so that they will be mentioned by their names no more. 18 "In that day I will also make a covenant for them With the beasts of the field, The birds of the sky and the creeping things of the ground. And I will abolish the bow, the sword and war from the land, and will make them lie down in safety.

Your husband is the Lord of hosts, your Maker.

Isa 54:5 "For your husband is your Maker, whose name is the Lord of hosts; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, who is called the God of all the earth.

6 "For the Lord has called you, like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, even like a wife of one's youth when she is rejected," Says your God. 7 "For a brief moment I forsook you, but with great compassion I will gather you. 8 "In an outburst of anger I hid My face from you for a moment, but with everlasting lovingkindness I will have compassion on you," Says the Lord your Redeemer.

Jeremiah uses the marriage analogy as a basis for God's call to His people to return to Him in repentance and faith.

Jer 3:14 'Return, O faithless sons,' declares the LORD; 'For I am a master to you, And I will take you one from a city and two from a family, And I will bring you to Zion.'

15 "Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding.

The New Covenant is made with man as God declares that He is our Husband.

Jer 31:31-32 "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the LORD (Jer 31:31-34).

Betroth = to promise "by one's truth."

He will betroth us:

Hos 2:19-20 "I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, In lovingkindness and in compassion, 20 And I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. Then you will know the Lord. (Ezek 16)

We are betrothed to Christ.

2Cor 11:2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.

Jesus Christ is our Bridegroom

Jesus refers to Himself as the bridegroom

Mat 9:14-15 Then the disciples of John came to Him, asking, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" 15 And Jesus said to them, "The attendants of the bridegroom cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. (Mk 2:18-20; Lk 5:33-35)

John the Baptist is the bridegroom's friend, Jesus Christ is the bridegroom.

Jn 3:29 "He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. So this joy of mine has been made full.

The parables of Jesus that speak about a bridegroom and bride.

The parable of the marriage feast (Mt 22:1-14)

The parable of the ten virgins (Mt 25:1-13)

Marriage is a picture of the relationship of Christ to the Church

Eph 5:25-29 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, 26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. 28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself; 29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, (Eph 5:22-33)

In Christ, we died to the Law and were joined (married) to God.

Rom 7:4 Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit for God.

We (the church) are the Bride of Christ

Eph 5:31-33 For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. 32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

2Cor 11:2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin.

Rev 19:7-8 "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." 8 It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Rev 21:1-2 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, "Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb." (Rev 21:9-27)

Rev 22:17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

A portrait of a godly husband (from Isa 54):

- Helps her find fruitfulness and fulfillment (54:1-3).
- Seeks to quiet her fears (54:4, 14, 15).
- Covers her shame, failure and humiliation with forgiveness and grace (54:4).
- Esteems her in failure (54:4).
- Behaves with godly character towards her (54:5);
- Doesn't allow conflict or anger to be a wall of separation between them (54:6-8).
- Does not respond in anger towards her (54:9-10).
- Communicates his commitment and devotion in the hard times (54:10).
- Comforts her in stressful times (54:11-12).
- Clothes her with words of affirmation 54:11-12).
- Instructs their children in spiritual matters (54:13).
- Defends and protects her when criticized or attacked (54:15-17).
- Battles with her (spiritual warfare) against the attack of the enemy (54:15-17).

A portrait of a godly husband (from Eph 5):

- Seeks to protect her (5:23).
- Will sacrifice and give of himself for her benefit (5:25).
- Loves her unconditionally (5:25, 33).
- Will help her walk-in sanctification (5:26-27).
- Will wash her by reading and talking to her about the Bible (5:26).
- Will love and care for her as he does his own body (5:28-29).
- Will find ways to nourish her spirit, soul and body (5:29).
- Will find ways to communicate that he cherishes her (5:29).
- Will make her the primary relationship of his life (5:31).

Names and promises given to the church

[from All the Promises of the Bible; by Dr. Herbert Lockyer; page 112]

- The body of Christ (Eph 1:22-23; Col 1:24).
- The bride of Christ (Eph 5:31-33; 2Cor 11:2-3; Rev 19:7; 21:9; 22:17).
- The house of Christ (Heb 3:6).
- The house of God (1Tim 3:15; Heb 13:21).
- The habitation of God (Eph 2:19- 22; 1Pet 2:4-5).
- The temple of God (1Cor 3:16- 17).
- The temple of the living God (2Cor 6:16).
- God's building (1Cor 3:9).
- God's fellow workers (1Cor 3:9).
- The Church of God (Acts 20:28).
- The church of the living God (1Tim 3:15).
- The church of the firstborn (Heb 12:23).
- The Israel of God (Gal 6:16).
- The flock of God (1Pt 5:2).
- The city of the living God (Heb 12:22).
- Mount Zion (Heb 12:22).
- The new Jerusalem (Rev 21:2).
- Heavenly Jerusalem (Gal 4:26; Heb 12:22).
- A spiritual house (1 Pet 2:5).
- The pillar and support of the truth (1Tim 3:15).
- The light of the world (Mt 5:14).
- The salt of the earth (Mt 5:13).
- One Bread (1Cor 10:17).
- A chosen race (1Pt 2:9).
- A royal priesthood (1Pt 2:9).
- A holy nation (1Pt 2:9).