

THE LORD'S SUPPER: SAVING THE BEST FOR LAST

Sunday, March 14, 2021 — The Lord's Supper series — msg 4 — Pastor Andrew Coleman

OUR GOAL: To understand the meaning of the Lord's Supper and God's purpose for it in our lives.

REVIEW:

- 1) Old Testament origin was God's deliverance of His people from Egypt when death passed over the homes with the blood of a lamb applied over the doorway.
- 2) God commanded His people to annually remember His rescue by the PASSOVER meal.
- 3) Jesus and His disciples celebrate the LAST PASSOVER SUPPER on the night before His crucifixion.
- 4) 1st Corinthians chapter 10 makes clear that true Christians cannot live wicked lives and claim salvation with Christ at His Table of sacrifice.
- 5) 1st Corinthians chapter 11 makes clear that the Lord's Supper is:
 - the foundation of true unity and fellowship of the Church
 - the time to carefully remember the death of Christ
 - the place of either personal examination or judgment of sin
 - is **not** to be taken lightly

"UNTIL HE COMES" — The Glorious Return and Marriage Supper of the Lamb

1st CORINTHIANS 11:26

***For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.***

Just to be clear:

"The First Coming" of Christ was as a babe in humility headed for the Cross.

"The Second Coming" of Christ will be the returning King in victory and glory.

The Bible speaks of the Second Coming 8 times more than the First Coming. 1,845 verses!

- 17 of the 39 books of the Old Testament
- 23 of the 27 books of the New Testament

Jesus, Himself, referred to His Second Coming 21 different times.

HEBREWS 9:28

so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Jude 1:14-15; Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 24:27-31; 25:1-13

When you hear the phrase *"the return of Christ"* the following themes should come to mind...

- FAITHFULLY WAITING, (Matt. 25:1-13; Hebrews 9:28; 2 Peter)
- SUDDEN SURPRISE, (1 Thess. 5:2; Rev. 16:15; Matt. 24:36; Zech. 14:7; Acts 1:7)
- VINDICATING RESCUE for the believing righteous, (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18; Jude 1:21)
- TERRIFYING JUDGMENT for the unbelieving wicked. (Revelation 19:15; 22:12;)

WHAT'S THIS ABOUT A WEDDING? What's the 'Marriage Supper of the Lamb'?

When we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we are not just remembering the past, but we are also tasting the future. We await the *marriage supper of the Lamb*.

- God made us male and female in His image.
(Genesis 1:27; 5:1; Matthew 19:4; Ephesians 4:24; Genesis 5:1; Psalm 139:14)
- God gave us earthly marriage to show us committed love.
(Genesis 2:22-25; Matthew 19:6; Mark 10:6-9)
- Every earthly marriage represents the eternal marriage between God and His people.
This is why the Church (God's people) is called the Bride and Christ is the Bride-Groom.
(Ephesians 5:22-33 see below)
- Currently, the Church is engaged -- we await the Bride-Groom's return and our wedding.
(Revelation 19:6-9 see below)
- The marriage supper of the Lamb is the glorious feast in heaven when God and His people will finally be together with no sin, separation, sickness, sorrow, strife or death.
(Revelation 21:1-5)

EPHESIANS 5:22-33 THE MEANING OF MARRIAGE

(English Standard Version ESV)

22 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. **23** For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. **24** Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

25 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. **28** In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. **29** For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, **30** because we are members of his body. **31** "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 19:6-9 MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB

(English Standard Version ESV)

6 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 the Almighty reigns.

7 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;

8 it was granted her to clothe herself
with fine linen, bright and pure"—
for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

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."

- Like an engagement ring, the Lord's Supper proclaims committed love.
- Like an engagement ring, the Lord's Supper proclaims 'this one is taken.'
- Like an engagement ring, the Lord's Supper proclaims a future joy awaits.