DAY 66: THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB

"'Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!
For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.
Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.'

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.)

Then the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God.' At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, 'Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus." (Revelation 19:7-10)

I. THE CULMINATION OF ALL EXPECTATION

- A. When the Marriage Supper finally comes, it is the culmination of all the expectation and longing in the Bible (v, 7)
- B. The Lamb arrives and she is ready, she is prepared for the wedding (v. 7)
- C. "Fine linen" is high quality, bright, pure, clean (v. 8)
 - 1. It is the righteous acts of the Saints
 - 2. Faith without works is dead (James 2); faith and acts go together
- D. Not everyone who is invited to the wedding comes (v. 9)
- E. The angel declares, "I am just a servant, like you" (v. 10)

II. THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS

- A. The testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of Prophecy (v. 10)
- B. The Spirit of Prophecy, at its core, revolves around the story of Jesus



III. THEOLOGY & CONTEXT

- A. Systematic Theology: the essential doctrines of the Christian faith have been and will always be true (ie. God is a trinity)
 - 1. The believers in the book of Genesis, however, would not have understood this at the time. They understood information as it was given to them.
- B. Biblical Theology: starts at the beginning, grows and evolves with the understanding of the people at the time
- C. We must understand the literary components of the Bible, it grows and expands over time, eventually reaching its' culmination at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb
- D. Reformed vs. Dispensationalism
 - Dispensationalist Camp: believe in Pre-Tribulation Rapture, the Tribulation and the Antichrist are in the future, Premillennialists (Jesus returns before the Millenium), have a rigid distinction between Israel and the Church (Church goes to heaven during the Great Tribulation and enjoys the Marriage Supper while Israel suffers the Great Tribulation, return when all is over)
 - 2. Reformed: majority are either Amillennialists (in the Millennium now, it's spiritual) or Post-Millennialists (there will be 1,000 year Golden Age of Christianity, but we ourselves bring it in, then Jesus returns)
 - 3. Both teach that once Jesus returns, we enter into the eternal state
 - 4. Both believe that the Marriage Supper is in heaven, figurative, spiritual
- E. Historical Pre-Millennialism: believes in Premillennialism, but not the Pre-Tribulational Rapture
 - 1. The Church will be on the Earth with Israel; when Jesus returns we will enjoy the Marriage Supper with Him on Earth
 - 2. The Bride is the faithful remnant within Israel ("The Ecclesia," which includes Gentile believers who have been joined to the Ecclesia, or church; does not replace Israel)
 - 3. God loves diversity!
- F. The story of the Exodus is the story of God entering into covenant with Israel
- G. Clarence Larkin's chart is a form of Replacement Theology



IV. THE STORY OF THE EXODUS

- A. The Proposal (Exodus 19:5-6)
 - 1. "Segullah" the crown jewel
- B. Israel Accepts (Exodus 19:7-8a)
 - 1. They didn't fully know what they were getting into, but they accept
 - 2. When we say "yes" to God, He rejoices
- C. The Mikveh (Exodus 19:10)
 - 1. Ritual Purification, three days before the Jewish wedding
- D. The Chuppah (Exodus 19:16-17)
 - 1. The Pillar of Cloud settles on the mountain
 - 2. Would have had a wide top, gave them shade during the day
 - 3. The Lord Himself was Israel's covering
- E. The Ketubah (Exodus 24:3)
 - 1. "I do"
 - 2. The Law of Moses itself is the wedding vow
- F. The Sealing of the Covenant (Exodus 24:4-8)
 - 1. The Twelve Pillars represent the Twelve Tribes
 - 2. The Covenant is sealed with blood
 - a) Half of the blood is for God (the alter), half for the people (pillars)
- G. The Marriage Supper (Exodus 24:1-2)
 - 1. The 70 representative elders of Israel go up the mountain, but only Moses goes all the way up to God (v. 1-2)
 - 2. Mt. Sinai must have two peaks
 - 3. Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and the 70 elders of Israel saw the God of Israel and they had the Marriage Supper (Exodus 24:9-11)
 - 4. This is the prophetic prelude to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb
 - a) The Old Covenant was sealed with a feast on Mt. Sinai
 - b) The New Covenant will be sealed with the Marriage Supper of the Lamb on Mt. Zion
- H. The Marriage Certificate
 - 1. The Ten Commandments
 - 2. Everything about Israel revolves around their identity as God's Bride (Ezekiel 16:8, Isaiah 54:4-5, Hosea 2:19-20)
- I. The Setting
 - 1. What started on Mt. Sinai culminates on Mt. Zion, the wedding takes place in Jerusalem (Isaiah 4:1-6)
 - 2. All peoples who fear the Lord will receive the lavish banquet (Isaiah 25:6-9)a) It is for Israel and those who believe in the Lord
 - 3. The Betrothal Covenant on Mt. Sinai (Egypt) becomes a Marriage Covenant on Mt. Zion (Jerusalem)



V. JESUS FORETELLS OF THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB

- A. Many will recline at the table with Israel in the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 8:10-11)
 - 1. The place that's governed by God, in Jerusalem, on Mt. Zion
 - 2. Both Jew and Gentile
- B. Jesus says that He won't take part in Passover again until He eats it in the Kingdom of God (Luke 22:14-18)
 - 1. After Jesus returns, the Throne of David is restored and the Kingdom of God is established on Earth
 - 2. At that time, the King will gird Himself to serve (Luke 12)

