

Session One: *"Jesus The Bridegroom"*

I) Introduction

- A) In these four session's we are going to be looking at four different facets of Jesus Christ. One of our core values is "The revelation of Jesus Christ" and to fully value the revelation of Jesus Christ we must come to love Him in the many different facets that He possesses.
- B) During this series we are going to look at "Jesus the Bridegroom" "Jesus the healer" "Jesus the advocate" and "Jesus the Deliverer." It's my passion in a brief way to connect you to four different facets of Jesus Christ.
- C) Jesus is like a multifaceted diamond with each facet strengthening the others and never diminishing any of the facets.

II) What Is The Bridegroom Message?

- A) Having a bridal paradigm means that the lens or perspective that we are looking through is one of love, devotion and faithfulness. We are referred to as many things in the Word of God, but for us to encounter and live in the experience of the love of God it's best that we look through the lens of bridal love.
- B) Bridegroom simply means = "A man just married or about to be married."
- C) The Bible doesn't refer to us as being married to Jesus in this age, but rather betrothed or engaged to God. But this shouldn't keep us from loving God faithfully now.
 - 1) **2nd Corinthians 11:2** *"For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ."*
- D) Jesus is currently living as a Man engaged to a fiancé called the Church. Jesus' goal for His Church is that she live towards Him in this age in the same manner that He is living towards her.
 - 1) **2nd Timothy 2:12** *"...If we deny Him, He also will deny us. If we are faithless, He (remains) faithful; He cannot deny Himself."*
 - 2) **Revelation 19:11** *"...He was called Faithful and True..."*
- E) The Bridegroom message is that " God's love for us is the strength of our faithfulness towards Him and living faithfully to Him now in this age, not only in the age which is yet to come.

III) The Bridegroom God Of The Old Testament.

- A) Although the language of God as a Bridegroom is found as early as **Genesis 1-3** it was Hosea, Isaiah and Jeremiah who first described God in plain term as a Bridegroom.
- B) Hosea prophesied between 755-710 B.C. and was most noted for God's instruction to Him to marry a prostitute. This marriage between Hosea and Gomer (the prostitute) would become a message of God's burning jealousy for His people and their harlotry towards Him.
- 1) **Hosea 2:2,5,7,16** *"...for she is not My wife, nor am I her Husband! Let her put away her harlotries from her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts...for she said , I will go after my lovers, who give me bread and my water...then she will say, I will go and return to my first husband, for then it was better for me than now...and it shall be in that day says the Lord, that you will call Me My Husband, and no longer call Me My Master..."*
- C) Isaiah who prophesied around the same time as Hosea from 740-680 B.C. would also proclaim the message that this Holy God they had known, was also a Bridegroom with passion for His people.
- 1) **Isaiah 62:4-5** *"...but you shall be called Hephzibah (My delight is in her) and Beulah (Literally married) for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married...and as the Bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you."*

IV) The Bridegroom God Of The New Testament and us.

- A) The streams of God being a Bridegroom would find their fulfillment in the sea of New Testament letters and epistles as nearly every writer would to some extent write on the Bridegroom God, Jesus Christ.
- B) John the Baptist would be the first person in the New Testament to trumpet the message that Jesus Christ is a Bridegroom filled with love, passion and faithfulness.
- 1) **John 3:29-30** *"He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegrooms voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. He must increase and I must decrease."*
- C) Jesus declared Himself to be a Bridegroom by saying *"...but the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them...the Kingdom of heaven is like a certain man who arranged a wedding for His Son...then the Kingdom of heaven shall be likened to ten virgins...who went out to meet the bridegroom." (Matthew 9:15;22:2;25:1)."*

"Four Facets Of Jesus"

- D) The goal of living through the bridal paradigm (perspective) is the internal understanding that we have been brought near the One who created us. Though He is Holy, He is a lover (Bridegroom) who desires His creation to be with Him where He is.
- E) Living through the bridal paradigm (perspective) empowers our hearts to become free from compromise, condemnation, shame, guilt and rejection. Those emotions keep us from growing in love. Most of our compromise is rooted in feeling rejected by God.
- F) If you feel dirty (sinful), you live dirty. But if you feel clean (loved), you live clean.
- G) In November of 2005 I was traveling over the Snoqualmie Pass and I had a several hour encounter with the Lord while driving to preach for the weekend. This is what the Lord said to me;
 - 1) Son, My bride isn't ready to walk into the Church right now. If she were to come in right now for the wedding day, the Church wouldn't stand to their feet because there's nothing adoring on her to capture the attention of the nations. He said that her makeup wasn't done, her dress is short, torn, trashy and dirty. She's wearing no perfume, no jewelry and she looks like she hasn't showered in days. Her hairs not done and she's barefooted.
 - 2) Then He said to me, in fact right now she's in bed with other lovers and won't even answer the door for Me. Behold, I am standing at the door knocking, but she won't come. She's too ashamed, and covered in guilt and doesn't even understand that I will heal her if she will only open the door. But He said that when she is unfaithful to Me, I am faithful to her because I can't deny Myself. I will stand at the door and keep knocking, but I won't force My way in. Over time My strong love will win her over, but this is where she is right now.