

THE ROYAL WEDDING

Text: Psalm 45

INTRO: In Psalm 45, the psalmist contemplates the Messiah & His bride.

I. THE PSALMIST'S INTRODUCTION, vs. 1.

He tells us that the next few statements are directed toward the Messiah-King.

II. THE PSALMIST SPEAKS TO THE KING, THE GROOM.

A. The Messiah is more than mere man, vs. 2.

B. He had enemies to conquer, truth & righteousness to vindicate, vs. 3-5. Acts 2:37; 7:54; Heb. 4:12

C. Next we learn **why** the Messiah is more than mere man -- His Deity is expressed, with its accompanying superiority over all others, vs. 6-7.

NOTE: The Hebrew writer removes all doubt as to the inspiration of the psalmist & the Deity of Jesus. "But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions.'" (Heb. 1:8-9).

D. The Messiah-King came from ivory palaces -- even from the throne in heaven, vs. 8-9.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that tho He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.
(2 Cor. 8:9)

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became

obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, & of those on earth, & of those under the earth, & that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
(Phil. 2:5-11)

E. At the King's right hand is His bride, the Queen, vs. 9.

1. The term "right hand" is used figuratively many times thru-out the Scriptures. It had its beginning with the fact that most people are naturally "right-handed," thus the right side is the strong side, the skilled side, etc.

2. Christ is said in Psalm 16:8 & Acts 2:25 to have the Father at His right hand. He is said in numerous passages to be at the Father's right hand, thus we can see that the term is obviously used figuratively.

a. For a person to have God at his right hand is to have God's protection, & the strength & courage that accompanies it.

I have set the Lord always before me,
because He is at my right hand, I shall
not be moved. (Psalm 16:8).

For He shall stand at the right hand of
the poor, to save him from those who
condemn him (Psalm 109:31).

b. For Christ to be seated at the right hand of
the Father is to describe the honor,
exaltation, power & glory of the
resurrected Christ, & especially to
recognize the influence He exerts on our
behalf.

The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand till I make Your enemies Your footstool" (Psalm 110:1).

And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. (John 16:23).

- c. In Psalm 45:9, we see portrayed the influence the bride has over the groom.

Bathsheba therefore went to King Solomon, to speak to him for Adonijah. And the king rose up to meet her & bowed down to her, & sat down on his throne & had a throne set for the king's mother; so she sat at his right hand. Then she said, "I desire one small petition of you; do not refuse me." And the king said to her, "Ask it, my mother, for I will not refuse you."

(1 Kings 2:19-20).

NOTE: In this instance, after he heard her request, it became necessary for Solomon to reject her request, but we still can see the great influence she had on him, seated at his right hand. Even so, it is possible for God's people to make requests that God in His wisdom cannot afford to grant, BUT righteous servants have great influence around the throne of God,

James 5:16.

II. NEXT, THE PSALMIST ADDRESSES THE QUEEN, THE BRIDE, vs. 10-15.

- A. We need to mention that this is pageantry. Not every detail is necessarily to stand for something. It is the whole picture that stands for something.
- B. The bride of Christ is the church, Eph. 5:23-27.
I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may

present you as a chaste virgin to Christ (2 Cor. 11:2).

- C. The church, the bride, must always be ready to hear the words of the King, vs. 10.
- D. She must always put Christ first, Matt. 10:37.
- E. It is this obedience that makes the bride beautiful in the sight of the King, vs. 11.
- F. Verse 12-15 picture the coming in of the Gentiles into the fold of God.

III. IN THE LAST TWO VERSES, THE GROOM IS AGAIN ADDRESSED, vs. 16-17.

- A. Under Christ, genealogy ceases to be emphasized. It is Christ's disciples that receive the emphasis rather than His ancestors.
 - 1. His ancestry is recorded in order to prove that He fulfilled OT prophecy.
 - 2. But it is His followers, His "children" that receive most of the attention.

Then one said to Him, "Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You." But He answered and said to the one who told Him, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, "Here are My mother & My brothers! ⁵⁰For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother." (MT 12:47-50).

CONCLUSION: And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters & as the sound of mighty thunders, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad & rejoice & give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, & His wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the

saints. Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!' " And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God." (Rev. 19:6-9)

And Jesus answered & spoke to them again by parables & said: "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, & sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; & they were not willing to come... Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, & as many as you find, invite to the wedding'... "For many are called, but few are chosen."
(Matthew 22:1-3. 8-9, 14).

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