

**His Wife Made Herself Ready Part 2 – Rev: 19:7**  
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A good place for you to be is here in the pews. But it's a scary place too if you do not hear and do our Lord's work. Matthew 19:7. But before I start I want to speak to you one last time on vs 6-8. *"His wife hath made herself ready."*

Before we read verses 6, 7, and 8, let us bow our heads in prayer. Our Father, you continue to remind us, and to set before us our duty. You continue to encourage us to come. And Lord if we do not get to thee by coming to the Lord Jesus, eternity bound up in itself to hear, and not do is an awful, awful thing. Father we're looking at the bride, the wife. We're looking at the bridegroom; the Lord of all and over all. There's no better place, none more sacred or holy than to be in that union and close fellowship with the bridegroom. Though he purchased her. I pray you enable us to act accordingly; espoused to the Lord the king, the very creator God. And that at such a high cost. I pray Father that you might set Christ before us in his majesty and degree of his glory for everything of him is in a degree. For we cannot know him fully. Only thou Almighty God knows the Son. But by giving us eyes and a heart then we're seeing some of the beauty and some of the glory of his majesty. Father, help us in that union to live before others as the espoused bride. I pray that you would help these dear souls, I pray that you might draw them to follow us that we all might run after thee, find thee, and abide with thee. Give us hearing ears. But Lord what good are hearing ears if you do not give us sweet morsels from glory? Do that for us. Exalt your son, edify these dear souls and those our friends beyond the walls of this place For thy great name's sake, hear us and answer us. For it is in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Revelation 19:6 *"And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude,"* It is a voice which no man can get the magnitude of the multitude. Yet all in unison. ... *and as the voice of many waters,..."*. *And as the voice of mighty thunderings,"* If you imagine being isolated, like John was and hear such a voice. You shout, *"Let us be glad and rejoice and give all the glory unto him. "For the marriage of the Lamb has come. And his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she*

*should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of the saints.*

That's given me a lot of trouble this week. In my head. How do you explain that? How do you speak about that? He is our righteousness, and yet clothed us in fine linen which is your righteousness. I hope the Lord will help and I don't ruin that, and mess it up. I can only paraphrase and I think I can get close enough that I can relay the message.

"We should come to church not expecting entertainment but rather the holy manifestation of God's presence. Worship is not some performance carried on within the walls of the church building. But it is a divine presence we experience." That was from Mr. Tozer. I think he passed in 1962 or 1963. But that was written some years before he passed. He's got several little, short books. One of the best is, What Ever Happened to Worship? He had already seen it depart in this land. And in his last several years up in Canada, he said, "I have preached myself out of every pulpit in America." As I said, I think this was in the 60s when he passed away. And he wrote then, What Ever Happened to Worship? He had seen that it had taken wings of the morning and had disappeared. Worship. The missing jewel. Worship is not some performance carried on within the walls of this church building Worship is a divine presence you experience.

There was the woman a Samaritan woman in John 4. When she began to see that this man was a prophet brought up the subject of worship. "Our fathers worshipped in this mountain You Jews say that Jerusalem is the place where one is to worship. He said, "The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, but they shall worship the Father.

And that getting to the Father is always through the Son by the Spirit. Some writers say that she was trying to change the subject when he brought up the fact that she was living in sin. I say that she was not changing the subject because he went on to talk to her about it. "*For the father seeketh such to worship him.*" That is something that every true believer will come to know. An experience though not in a great way at this hour, but we will experience it. Knowing what that divine presence is. We cannot explain it let alone talk much about it. But do you know anything about it? When you bend your knees is there a presence? When you

assemble here, is there a divine presence? Too little I say but yet more than in most places. Worship is almost gone in this land. Almost totally gone. There might be a few little groups scattered here and there that we don't know about. But in preparation for that marriage, all of us right now are like Mary. We've been espoused to the greater than Joseph.

Now I don't mean to get off on chasing rabbits here. But it used to be that the house of God was the place where a wedding ceremony was evidence. Now you'd be surprised at the places where couples want their wedding to be. Wherever it is I know this. That for that young lady, that's going to be the one day when she wants it to be the best in her life. I want to be completely prepared and she didn't decide that the week before where she wanted to be. Months upon months, I do know of some that have selected a wedding dress two years prior. That's how much it meant. But his bride will be ready. And there's not but one thing that will prepare us to stand in his visible presence. That is to know something about that presence now. Sometimes in the closet there might be repentance, sometimes thanksgiving and praise, sometimes total silence in your heart. Like the two Puritans were praying out in the field. Someone asked the other that went with him, "How was it?" He answered, when he started to pray, I pulled my arms to my body, and I was afraid to reach out. I was afraid that I might touch God." That's reality. That's that divine presence of God. It is that that will prepare the bride for this day. "She hath made herself ready."

Now before considering that a little more. Consider with me the divine order of the workings of God *prior* to. As I mentioned, the woman at the well finally knew. "*Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ*" (John 4:29)? And her heart was so affected she went to the group there in the town that would hear her. It was a group of only men. She told them, "*come*" with me. I want you to meet him. I want you to hear him. He told me everything. That's the Christ.

Before you ever are espoused to the Lord Jesus, before you ever meet him, and repentance and faith flows from the heart God has worked in, before that happens there was a time when you as that woman, as that bride to be, you found out that you were like all the other human beings. You were dead in trespasses and sin. And the only desire you had was to fulfill the lust of the flesh

or the lust of the mind. And you were all without God in this old world. Didn't know God, never met God. Oh, you might have been raised in the church, you might have read your Bible. But you didn't know God or salvation. And unknown to you was the Lamb's Book of Life that was written before you got here. Or your great grandparents got here. Or your ancient ancestor Adam. Or your family tree.

There was the Lamb's Book of Life that was written. And in that book contained all the names. But what if my name is not written there? But that's not significant. Only those will be saved. God didn't tell you anything about that. He said repent and believe. That's the only way you'll find out if your name was there. When you meet the Lord Jesus and then as you read you find out that there was an omnipotent God that was guarding every step you took. You could not die. You could not pass from this walk of life until you met Jesus. Again, we're not talking about infants that have no place in this. I know David would go to where his dead baby was. You just found out that God was keeping you, guarding you, directing your every step so that one day you would meet his only begotten Son.

That woman had to be awakened first. Don't get this order reversed. She had to be awakened. And that only came about, not because she performed some deed of accepting Jesus, it first came about of the generating work of the Spirit of God. It was that that brought repentance. It was that that brought about faith for you to behold the Savior. There she is, like all members of his bride. When she was awakened, she found herself guilty before a holy God without hope in this old world deserving of Hell.

But in his good time and providence the Lord sent a messenger who told her about the serpent, hanging there on that pole. Our Lord himself talks about that in John 3 *"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness even so must the Son of man must be lifted up."* For the very thing that had killed and was leading and keeping that woman, before she got to Jesus, was sin. And on that pole Jesus Christ became sin for every individual who would be with him in eternity. All of them. But there was that serpent. That which had poisoned your blood stream killing you. Sin. Somebody comes along and says, if you'll get to Christ, if you get to the Lord Jesus, he'll deliver you from sin. Folks, isn't it strange how we don't talk about that in talking to would-be converts? We talk about them going to heaven. We don't talk about them going to Hell. A strange language today is he

became sin, bore all your sins that you might belong one day in that great number that makes up his wife. And when you met him a lifelong road of sanctification began flowing from that new heart. It begins flowing from the very principles of life, that holy seed of God having been implanted in you. And throughout life, you will forever be growing in grace and knowledge. That is called sanctification. I don't want you to get that mixed up with Christ being our sanctification. That's a different thing. I'm talking about you striving after holiness. I'm talking about your life being such that every step you take and every word you speak. And if possible every word you hear won't take you from that one you met and won your heart.

Sanctification. Saved. Titus 3:5 *"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost."* It's that. You don't get to use the day before Christ is to return. You get everything packed and ready for the bride to meet him. You've been doing that all your life. Downfalls? Yes. Sins? Yes. But not one sin that will overcome you and destroy you if you're in him. *"We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works"* (Eph. 2:10). His wife hath made herself throughout life.

That first cry from the Lord, from the messenger that God sends his voice in your soul or will sound one day, talking to you that are members of his bride there will be that voice that comes to you by way of the messenger *"Behold the bridegroom cometh."* And the only thing that the bride did was to arise. Well, the foolish virgins did the same thing. And the next thing that the bride did, because the bridegroom is coming, was to trim her lamp. Well, the professor in religion trims his lamps also. For when he comes and that cry is made it is too late. He came at the midnight hour. Folks you are fast approaching that.

Darkness has engulfed and spread throughout the world and throughout these states. But you have hope within, and your lamp kept burning because you made certain of your calling and election. Make certain that your life with God is through the bridegroom. When your love wanes just a little you begin seeing why. What has happened to me? He is not to me today what it was last week. It could be that you left him last week.

You got off chasing those little shiny bubbles in life, but you got back quickly. She's not saved by her works and yet. She's striving to always be pleasing to God and to

maintain a life of good works. Not saved by works. But as James said, *"Faith that has not works is dead."* The two go together. God did not look to see what you had done. Or what you would do. God saved you in that lost, dead darkness that you were in and planted the principle of life. And you've been following. And you're living a life of trying to please him with what you do.

Turn to Revelation, first three chapters where he is speaking to the seven churches of Asia Minor, you'll find these words in every one of these letters, *"I know thy works."* I know what have you been doing. I know why you have been doing it. Some of them had works to pleased him. Most of them failed recently here. Later on he said, *"Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord. And the Spirit said, they rest from their labours"* (14:13). She's laboring. She's constantly keeping check on her heart. She's constantly setting up guards all around her. She's got those frontlets from the side of her eyes. Like we used to have following a horse; sometimes a mule with blinders on both sides. Cause you wanted her walking straight. *"And the Spirit said, they shall rest from their labours. And their works do follow them"* (14:13). There is not a soul in heaven that has yet been judged by their works, and the good that came from them.

Some of those old men have lived on for four and five hundred years and some of them longer than that. And their words and messages were spread abroad, and they've touched many a heart. But God couldn't judge them when they died. *"And their works do follow them"*. But those who were given the talents and to some he said, *"Well done..."*. That is when he comes back to take an account of the talents he gave, *"... well done thou good and faithful servant."* There will be those at the judgment seat that will hear *"Depart from me ..."* (Matt. 7:23). And in that crowd, in that great multitude there's going to be an innumerable company that did the same thing that the Christians did. Exactly the same thing. The only difference is that the bride had a heart engaged in what she did. And the religious, though their works could have been greater than the Christian, had no heart behind what they did.

Covering the points False prophets in the pulpit have brought many converts that they made. They got them down to the altar. They believed in what we now call "decisional regeneration." If they can get them to decide. And if they can get them to decide they will build fences around all their goals. This you do. That you

cannot. As long as you abide by what I tell you, you'll be alright. But if you go astray, you'll be in great danger. They build that fence high and strong. If you're going to heaven, you better stay within our guidelines. Because they are the ones who talked them into regeneration, which is only the work of the Spirit. Folk, the preacher could have easily taken the fifteen minutes he gives to that cute little sermonette and could have spoken to them about the fairytale of Hansel and Gretel. That witch could have taken them into the woods. That man up in that pulpit could have easily told them about that and said, 'now all of you find their way home. You come down here to the front and I'll tell you where your house is.' You say that's not possible. Oh yes, it is. Very possible.

There's a fella here, I won't call his name. The preacher gave an invitation at the end of the service. And this fella, of course, got in with the pastor and said, "Why did you give that altar call? Why did you invite them down to the front?" He said, "How are they going to know what it is to get saved?" I said that I won't call that man's name. You can imagine. He's gonna call him on the carpet. Matthew, chapter 7. But it was right to do so. That man was thinking that I don't do, they can't become part of the bride. And if they get down here and I tell them what to do, 'tell God, I am a sinner and ask Jesus to come into your heart.' Then he stands in front of the church and says, this little boy and this little girl got saved a little while ago. And we'll baptize them next Sunday.

Just lies. Oh, he thought he was telling them the truth because that's what he had been taught. Matthew 7:21 *"Now not everyone that sayeth unto me Lord, Lord shall enter into the kingdom of heaven. But he that doeth ... I told you that when God regenerated you, he implanted within the principle of life. Wherein his bride will be doing. He that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."* Now that's good folks he's talking to. And there was no denial of their works. But the one thing that he told them was missing *I never knew you.*" It was that intimate knowledge and relationship that made a converted sinner one with his lord. And the others did what the bride was doing. Their houses were as clean as hers. Their duties were exactly like that. But the bride was in that personal

relationship. But thou, *I never knew you*. Look up the words know or knew. How it's used. But to those, he said, "*I never knew you*."

They never heard what Ruth did one day. "*Daughter, sit still*" (Ruth 3:18). That man in whose fields you've been gleaning will not rest until things are brought to their conclusion. That man was her kinsman redeemer and Naomi said, you just sit still. That man will do whatever is right by you. As that redeemer later on took Ruth home with him and that personal relationship that she now has produced a little boy who later on was known as David.

And the Lord said to those on his left, "*depart*." I never knew you. I didn't take you home with me. The Lord looks not at what you do but the Lord looks deep within your soul and asks, Why did you do it? You see folks we have been brought into union with the Lord Jesus Christ. And what we do, we do out of a heart of devotion. A heart that loves him.

One day the prophet Samuel, I'll tell you a little about the prophet. God did not let any of his words fall to the ground. Everything that he said came to pass. One day Samuel came down there to Jesse's house. There was a group of men out there, a group of elders. They heard that he was coming, and they met him. They asked, are you coming peaceably? For They know that that man said that judgment was about to fall on this place. They were in trouble. He said, yeah peaceably. And Samuel went on to Jesse's house and told him his mission. So Jesse brings out the firstborn. And Samuel looks at him, and he pauses, he's good looking and he says to himself, surely this is the one. And the Lord said, Samuel, Samuel you're looking upon the outward appearance. The Lord looks not on the countenance, nor height, nor stature as men look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart. That's not the one that you're to anoint. And it won't matter what you did or how good your works were, if you are not brought into a personal relationship with the Son of God. At that point of personal relationship, all your works flow because he captures your heart. But she, his bride, his wife has been busy making herself ready. And to her was granted." She's doing righteous deeds because she loves her Lord. "*And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen*" (19:8). Which is the righteousness of the Son.

Although it was her Lord working in her, the will of his good pleasure, in the end he says Good job, You did right. I know why you did and what you did. Here's that



fine linen Christ attributes to his children. That's the righteousness of the saints. And please don't misunderstand me. Prior to the espousal every last one of us was made to know that all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags. I know what I am. I know what I would do. But when we're brought to the Lord of glory, our bridegroom repented of our sins, because God gave that gift to us. He gave us the gift of faith also. I know that God covered me with the garment of his salvation and robed me with a robe of righteousness. But his salvation and his righteousness that Isaiah speaks about; that's my Lord. I can't explain it, but I know in the legal court of heaven the Lord Jesus worked out a righteousness where you'd be clothed in his garment of salvation and the robe of his righteousness. For he is "*made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption*" (1 Cor. 1:30). I know in him we are as holy as God is holy. Don't accuse me of losing my mind. I know what I am in Adam. The only one way I can get into glory is to be as holy as God. There's only one that could do that for me And that's the Lord Jesus. He said, '*Well done*' thou good and faithful servant. Lord, I just did what I did because I love you knowing that I was a sinner. Enter thou into court of heaven.

Hebrews 6:10 "*For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love*", But Lord I Just did it because I met my kinsmen Redeemer. I just did it because I just wanted to serve you. "*God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister*".

That's the difference between the sheep on the right hand and the goats on the left. All your labors are from the heart. All the harlot's labors were for herself. You're in love with the bridegroom. The harlot's in love with herself. And you? God will not *forget your work and labor of love*. But you never kept account of what you were doing because you did not do it for personal benefit. And the Lord says to those on his right hand, "*Come ye blessed of my Father. For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:*" (Matthew 25:35). And the bride said, 'When saw we thee a stranger, or thirst? When did we see you a stranger?' "*Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least, ... ye have done it unto me.*"

Religious people and the harlot church keep accounts. But a Christian labors from the heart. Not so that God would give you an award. You did it because that person was in need. You did because God has given you a heart. You did it trying to do for any what God has and is doing for you. 'Well Lord we cast out devils and we prophesied in thy name. And we did many wonderful things in thy name'. Depart because I never knew you. So in that time, and in that day, she'll be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white, which the Lord calls hers. But the bride has on her garment. But her dear bridegroom's face. And so that's what makes the difference, child of God, between you and the religious person. You continue to labor, you strive, you fall, you will not lie in the ditch. God will get you up. And you will press on.

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