

Marriage Class – Faith-filled Marriages 8/24/2022 Ps. AI

Part 1 The Great Mystery, Christ and the Church

But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.”

I Corinthians 2:9-16 NKJV

I want to challenge your perspective of the great truth of this Word is - at the highest levels of understanding.

“Let marriage be held in honor (esteemed worthy, precious, of great price, and especially dear) in all things. And thus let the marriage bed be undefiled (kept undishonored); for God will judge and punish the unchaste [all guilty of sexual vice] and adulterous.”

Hebrews 13:4 AMPC

- There is a very specific reason that marriage is to be held in honor above all

When Jesus returns what does He want to find?

- Faith because a faithful bride is what He’s returning for
- Faithfulness is #1 in marriage and towards God – 1st Commandment
- God correlates faithfulness to Him with our faithfulness to one another

“And this second thing you do. You cover the Lord’s altar with tears, with weeping and groaning because he no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor

from your hand. But you say, “Why does he not?” Because the Lord was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. “For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the Lord, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless.””

Malachi 2:13-16 ESV

Week 1: The Great Mystery Revealed

God’s marriage plan for us

- You will never understand the fulness of what your marriages to one another could and should be until you first understand God’s plan for your marriage and plan for His marriage to us.

“Husbands have the obligation of loving and caring for their wives the same way they love and care for their own bodies, for to love your wife is to love your own self. No one abuses his own body, but pampers it—serving and satisfying its needs. That’s exactly what Christ does for his church! He serves and satisfies us as members of his body. For this reason a man is to leave his father and his mother and lovingly hold to his wife, since the two have become joined as one flesh. Marriage is the beautiful design of the Almighty, a great mystery of Christ and his church. So every married man should be gracious to his wife just as he is gracious to himself. And every wife should be tenderly devoted to her husband.”

Ephesians 5:28-33 TPT

“This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”

Ephesians 5:32 NKJV

- The intended relationship between husbands and wives, in God’s eyes, is described here very clearly and intentionally.
- That is the plan of marriage
- That plan of marriage with every aspect of the kind of love, submission, reverence, care and unity - as one flesh

- Reveals what Paul calls a great mystery and that great mystery revealed is the ultimate plan of God of the marriage unity between His Son Jesus and the us - the church

Paul revealed a lot of mysteries but only one Great Mystery

- There are different levels of understanding of the Bible
- There is only one Great Understanding - what Paul calls a Great Mystery which is now the Great Revelation because it is revealed to us
- I have a tendency to look at the back of the book and move backwards.

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

Revelation 19:6, 8-9 ESV

“Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.””

Revelation 21:9 ESV

““I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.” The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.”

Revelation 22:16-17 ESV

- 4th to the last verse in the Bible
- The bride of Jesus speaking with one voice, in unity

Now you go to the beginning of the story in Genesis chapter 1

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

- The Image of Elohim is man and woman in marriage

- He made us to be in relationship with Him - intimately
- To perpetuate the image of God on earth as well as the character of God
- Chapter one He made the heavens and the earth
- God does not look at us from the heavens and sees the world with us in the world, He sees us with the world around us!

Other Great Revelation for God's ultimate plan:

“For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called.”

Isaiah 54:5 ESV

John 3:29

“He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled.”

John 3:29 NKJV

“Then the disciples of John came to Him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but Your disciples do not fast?” And Jesus said to them, “Can the friends of the bridegroom mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.”

Matthew 9:14-15 NKJV

- Repeated again in Mark 2:19
- Luke 5:34

Jesus reveals Himself as the bridegroom

“submitting to one another in the fear of God. Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”

Ephesians 5:21-27 NKJV

Paul's entire ministry-mission-vision, summed up:

“You need to know that God’s passion is burning inside me for you, because, like a loving father, I have pledged your hand in marriage to Christ, your true bridegroom. I’ve also promised that I would present his fiancée to him as a pure virgin bride.”

2 Corinthians 11:2 TPT

- As Jesus is returning for a faithful bride - undefiled
- That’s why Jesus wants to find faith when He returns
- That’s why this book is bound in 2 covenants as marriage is bound in covenant

Vision - we must have this understanding if

- We are going to know God’s ultimate plan for us
- The Lord says that My people suffer for a lack of vision

God’s Vision Statement for us:

To prepare for His Son a bride that is worthy of Himself

- So that everything God does to us, towards us and through us for others is for this purpose

This is the great revelation - this (Bible) is about a wedding

- About being taken into the Godhead as a wife for all eternity

“Jesus returns on His white horse and picks us up, His bride, And throws us on the back of His horse. He isn’t going to ride us into where the sun sets but where the Son sits” – Ps. AI

And this level of understanding of God’s ultimate plan and relationship with us

- Is to be the same plan and example of our marriages to each other
- In the same length, width and depth that Christ loves the church - is the same length - width and depth that love and honor in our marriages should be.
- No longer the great mystery!

Now this is not just any mystery - but a great mystery revealed.

I want to challenge your perspective of God’s eternal plan as revealed in this great mystery of our marriage example and that of Christ and the church.

I want to challenge you to look at your marriages as a living and practical example of the God's ultimate plan for us and what this book we call the Bible, that is Jesus Himself, is really all about.

- Plan of Redemption & Rescue
- Restoration - promises, prosperity, Deut 28:1-2
- Perfecting - Consecration, Sanctification and Perfection
- Rapture and Marriage
- Eternal

The devil works so hard to destroy the nuclear family. The devil's plan is to destroy the sanctity of marriage

- That's why divorce rates in the world are no different in the church
- That's why abortion
- That's why homosexuality and gay marriage
- His job is to disrupt this marriage union with Jesus

Strategy for us:

- Binding and loosing
- Capturing every thought
- Spiritual Maturity through marriage
- The world created for us
- "For your Maker is your husband, The Lord of hosts is His name; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth." Isaiah 54:5 NKJV
 - He made us to marry us

Lord speak this prophetic Word over us from the prophet Hosea:

""Therefore, behold, I will allure her, Will bring her into the wilderness, And speak comfort to her. I will give her her vineyards from there, And the Valley of Achor as a door of hope; She shall sing there, As in the days of her youth, As in the day when she came up from the land of Egypt. "And it shall be, in that day," Says the Lord, "That you will call Me 'My Husband,' And no longer call Me 'My Master,'" Hosea 2:14-16 NKJV

"For I will take from her mouth the names of the Baals, And they shall be remembered by their name no more. In that day I will make a covenant for them

With the beasts of the field, With the birds of the air, And with the creeping things of the ground. Bow and sword of battle I will shatter from the earth, To make them lie down safely. "I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me In righteousness and justice, In lovingkindness and mercy; I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, And you shall know the Lord. "It shall come to pass in that day That I will answer," says the Lord; "I will answer the heavens, And they shall answer the earth."

Hosea 2:17-21 NKJV

End

1 Pet 3:7, Col 3:19, Jude 1:20-25 esv

"that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Colossians 2:2-3

Other reference: Jimmy Evans, Marriage on the Rock

The institution of marriage is more important than the institution of the church, government, finance or anything else

- Our country and churches will only be as healthy as marriages are
 - Marriage is first set apart for God and should be the #1 reason for your marriage
1. It's not about us but to glorify Christ first
 2. A holy institution that God loves

God says let us make man in our image (Elohim)

1. replicate God's image and nature on earth: Genesis chpt: when Adam was by himself the devil never attacked him. When the devil saw Adam and Eve together with God he attacked them because he saw the image of Elohim. Genesis chpt 3 was not so much the fall of man but the fall of marriage
2. To perpetuate the character and image of God in the world