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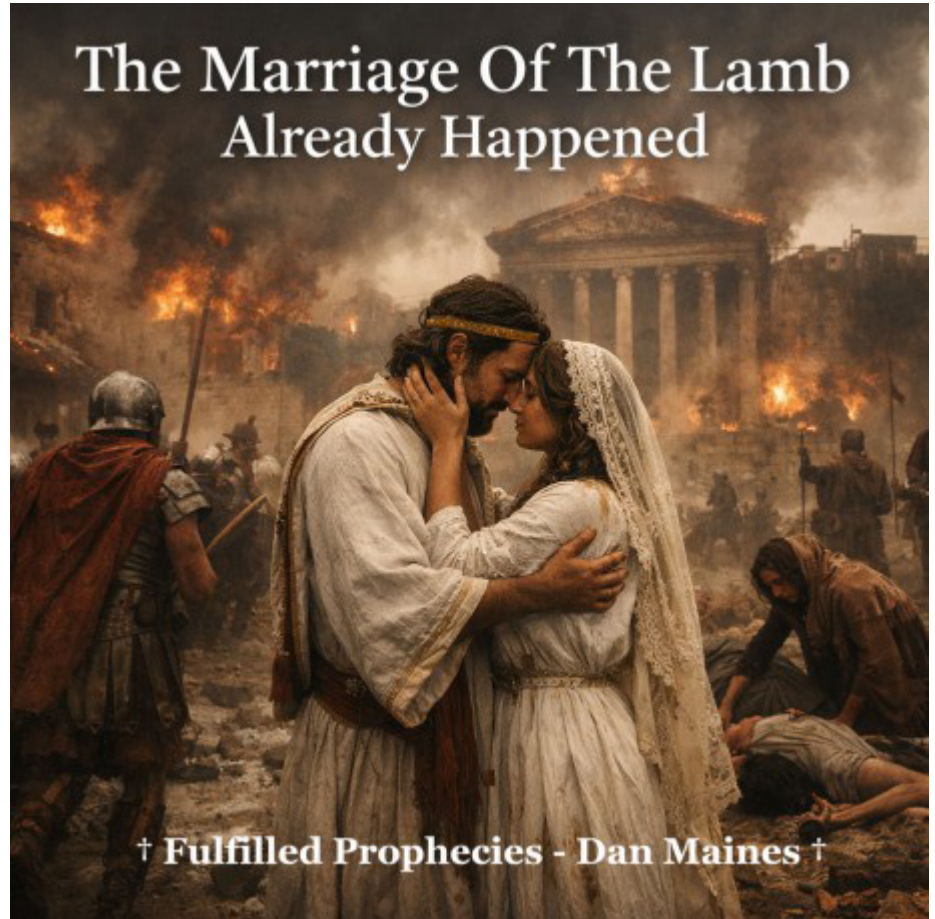
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[Wedding - The Marriage Of The Lamb Already Happened](#)



By Dan Maines

The Marriage Of The Lamb Already Happened

Introduction

† The marriage of the Lamb wasn't a future event thousands of years away. Scripture places it at the time of the judgment that ended the old covenant order and revealed the fully established bride of Christ (Matthew 22:7, Hebrews 8:13).

† Revelation doesn't leave the timing open ended. It says these things would shortly come to pass and that the time was at

hand, so the marriage language must be understood in that first century setting (Revelation 1:1, Revelation 22:10).

† Everything in Revelation was written to real first century churches who were told these events were near, not thousands of years away (Revelation 1:3, Revelation 22:6-7).

† When the harlot city was judged, the bride was revealed. That's why Revelation 19 and Revelation 21 belong together. One shows the marriage announced, the other shows the bride identified (Revelation 18:20-24, Revelation 21:9-10).

† Revelation shows two women, the harlot city and the bride city. One is judged and destroyed, the other is revealed and established (Revelation 17:1-5, Revelation 21:9-10).

Revelation 19:7-9

7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, because the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has prepared herself.

8 It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

9 Then he said to me, Write: 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.

† The text says the marriage of the Lamb has come, not that it might come thousands of years later. Revelation's own time statements require a near fulfillment (Revelation 1:1, Revelation 22:10).

† The fall of Babylon the great happens right before the marriage announcement, showing the unfaithful city had to be judged before the bride could be revealed (Revelation 18:2, Revelation 19:1-7).

† The bride had already prepared herself, which shows a complete people, not something still forming today (Ephesians 5:25-27, Hebrews 12:22-23).

† This comes right after the judgment of the harlot, which means the false city had to be removed before the true bride stood revealed (Revelation 17:18, Revelation 18:21-24, Matthew 23:37-38).

Revelation 21:2, 9-10

2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

9 Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, Come here, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.

10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

† The bride isn't left undefined. John is told he'll be shown the bride, and what he's shown is the new Jerusalem (Galatians 4:26, Hebrews 12:22-24).

† This is covenant language. The new Jerusalem is God's people, not a future pile of buildings coming down from the sky (Ephesians 2:19-22, 1 Peter 2:5).

† Revelation shows the bride after the judgment scenes, which fits the timing of the old system passing and the new standing fully in place (Hebrews 8:13, Hebrews 12:18-24).

† Believers had already come to the heavenly Jerusalem, not were waiting to go there, showing this was already real, not

future (Hebrews 12:22-24).

Matthew 22:2-7

2 The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son.

3 And he sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding feast, and they were unwilling to come.

4 Again he sent other slaves, saying, Tell those who have been invited, Behold, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fattened livestock are all butchered and everything is ready, come to the wedding feast.

5 But they paid no attention and went their separate ways, one to his own farm, another to his business,

6 and the rest seized his slaves and mistreated them and killed them.

7 But the king was enraged, and he sent his armies and destroyed those murderers and set their city on fire.

† Jesus tied the wedding to the destruction of the city. That alone proves this isn't future to us (Matthew 23:34-36, Luke 21:20-24).

† The invited guests were that generation who rejected Him and killed the messengers sent to them (Matthew 21:33-45, Acts 7:51-52).

† The city being burned is exactly what happened to Jerusalem, and Jesus said it would happen in His generation (Matthew 24:2, Matthew 24:34).

Isaiah 62:4-5

4 It will no longer be said to you, Forsaken,
Nor will your land any longer be said to be Desolate,
But you will be called, My delight is in her,
And your land, Married,

For the LORD delights in you,
And your land will be married.

5 For as a young man marries a virgin,
So your sons will marry you,
And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
So your God will rejoice over you.

† Marriage language was always about covenant restoration, not a future ceremony in heaven (Isaiah 54:5-6, Hosea 2:19-20).

† What the prophets spoke about is exactly what we see fulfilled when the bride is revealed in Revelation (Revelation 21:2, Ephesians 5:25-27).

Matthew 24:30-34

30 And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory.

31 And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet blast, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

32 Now learn the parable from the fig tree, as soon as its branch has become tender and sprouts its leaves, you know that summer is near,

33 so you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door.

34 Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

† The gathering of the elect happens in that same time frame, and Jesus said it would all happen in that generation (Matthew 16:27-28, Matthew 23:36).

† This gathering lines up with the bride being brought together into full union with Christ (2 Thessalonians 2:1, Hebrews 10:25-27).

† You can't push this into our future without ignoring what Jesus clearly said (Matthew 24:34, Revelation 22:6-7).

Ephesians 5:25-27

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,
26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,
27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she would be holy and blameless.

† Christ's goal was to present the church to Himself as a complete bride (2 Corinthians 11:2, Revelation 19:7-8).

† The old covenant was about to disappear, and once it did, the bride stood complete (Hebrews 8:13, Hebrews 9:8-10).

† Revelation shows that completed result, the bride fully ready (Revelation 19:7).

John 3:29

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. So this joy of mine has been made full.

† Jesus was already called the bridegroom in the first century, so this wasn't something far off (Matthew 9:15, Mark 2:19-20).

† John wasn't pointing to a distant event, he was pointing to what was happening right then (John 1:29-31, John 3:28-30).

† The marriage reached completion when the old system was judged and removed (Matthew 22:2-7, Revelation 19:1-9).

2 Corinthians 11:2

2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy, for I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.

† Paul said they were promised to one husband, showing the relationship was already in place (Romans 7:4, Ephesians 5:31-32).

† Being promised leads to being presented, and being presented leads to full union. That's exactly what we see fulfilled in Revelation (Ephesians 5:27, Revelation 19:7).

† They weren't waiting thousands of years, they were being brought into that completed union at the end of that age (Hebrews 12:22-24, Revelation 21:2).

Hebrews 8:13

13 When He said, A new covenant, He has made the first obsolete, but whatever is becoming obsolete and growing old is about to disappear.

† The old covenant was already fading and about to disappear in their time (Hebrews 9:8-10, Hebrews 10:1).

† The marriage fits right into that timing, old removed, new fully established (Revelation 21:2, Galatians 4:24-26).

† Once the old system was judged, only the bride remained (Revelation 18:2, Revelation 21:9-10).

Historical References

† Josephus recorded the destruction of Jerusalem, including the burning of the city and temple, matching exactly what Jesus said would happen (Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6; Matthew 24:2).

† Eusebius pointed to that same event as the fulfillment of Christ's warnings (Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3; Matthew 22:7).

† History lines up with Scripture, the old city fell just as Jesus said, and that is when the bride stands revealed (Luke 21:20-22, Matthew 24:34).

How It Applies To Us Today

† We're not waiting for this marriage. It's already done, and we're living in that finished relationship (Hebrews 12:22-24, Ephesians 2:13-22).

† We're not trying to earn our place. In Christ, we've already come into that union (Romans 8:1, Hebrews 10:14).

† Our identity isn't future, it's already secure in Him (Colossians 2:9-10, Revelation 21:3-4).

Q & A Appendix

Q How do we know this was near in time?

A Revelation says these things would shortly come to pass and the time was at hand, so it can't be pushed thousands of years into the future (Revelation 1:1, Revelation 22:10).

Q Who is the bride?

A The bride is the new Jerusalem, which Scripture identifies as

God's people in the new covenant (Revelation 21:9-10, Hebrews 12:22-24, Galatians 4:26).

Q Why connect this to AD 70?

A Jesus tied the wedding to the destruction of the city, and He said it would happen in His generation, which points directly to AD 70 (Matthew 22:7, Matthew 24:34).

Q Why do many believe the marriage takes place in heaven?

A Because they read Revelation as future and assume heaven is the location, but the text says the bride comes down out of heaven and that believers had already come to the heavenly Jerusalem, so it's about covenant reality, not a physical place (Revelation 21:2, Hebrews 12:22-24).

Q If the marriage already happened, why does Revelation speak of it as future?

A It was future to John, but still near, just like everything else in the book that was about to happen (Revelation 1:1, Revelation 22:6-7).

Q Was the church already in a relationship with Christ before AD 70?

A Yes, they were already promised to Him and He was already called the bridegroom, Revelation shows the completion of that relationship (John 3:29, 2 Corinthians 11:2, Ephesians 5:25-27).

Q What is the marriage actually describing?

A It's the full union of Christ and His people when the old covenant system was removed and the new stood complete (Hebrews 8:13, Revelation 19:7, Revelation 21:2).

Q Are we still waiting to become the bride?

A No, the bride was already prepared and revealed, believers now live in that finished relationship (Revelation 19:7, Hebrews 12:22-24).

Q What does the wedding feast represent?

A It represents the joy and completion of the kingdom when God's people were fully brought into covenant union with Christ (Matthew 22:2-10, Revelation 19:9).

Q Who were the ones that rejected the invitation?

A That generation of Israel who rejected Christ and killed the messengers sent to them (Matthew 22:3-6, Matthew 23:34-36).

Q What does the burning of the city mean?

A It refers to the destruction of Jerusalem, which Jesus said would happen in His generation (Matthew 22:7, Luke 21:20-24).

Q Why is the bride called a city?

A Because God's people are described as a dwelling place, a spiritual house, not a literal building (Ephesians 2:19-22, 1 Peter 2:5).

Q How do we know this isn't a future physical event?

A Because every time statement in Revelation says it's near, and Jesus said all these things would happen in that generation (Revelation 1:1, Matthew 24:34).

Q What changed after the marriage was complete?

A The old covenant system was gone, and the new covenant stood fully established with Christ and His people in full union (Hebrews 8:13, Hebrews 12:22-24).

Q Does this mean prophecy is still being fulfilled today?

A No, the marriage shows the completion of the covenant transition, meaning those prophecies were fulfilled in that generation (Revelation 19:7, Matthew 24:34).

Q What does this mean for believers right now?

A It means we're already part of the bride and living in the finished kingdom, not waiting for a future event to make it real

(Colossians 2:9-10, Ephesians 2:13-22).

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Revelation 19:7-9; Revelation 21:2, 9-10; Matthew 22:2-7; Isaiah 62:4-5; Matthew 24:30-34; Ephesians 5:25-27; John 3:29; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Hebrews 8:13; Hebrews 12:22-24; Galatians 4:26; Ephesians 2:19-22; Colossians 2:9-10; Romans 8:1

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book 3

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