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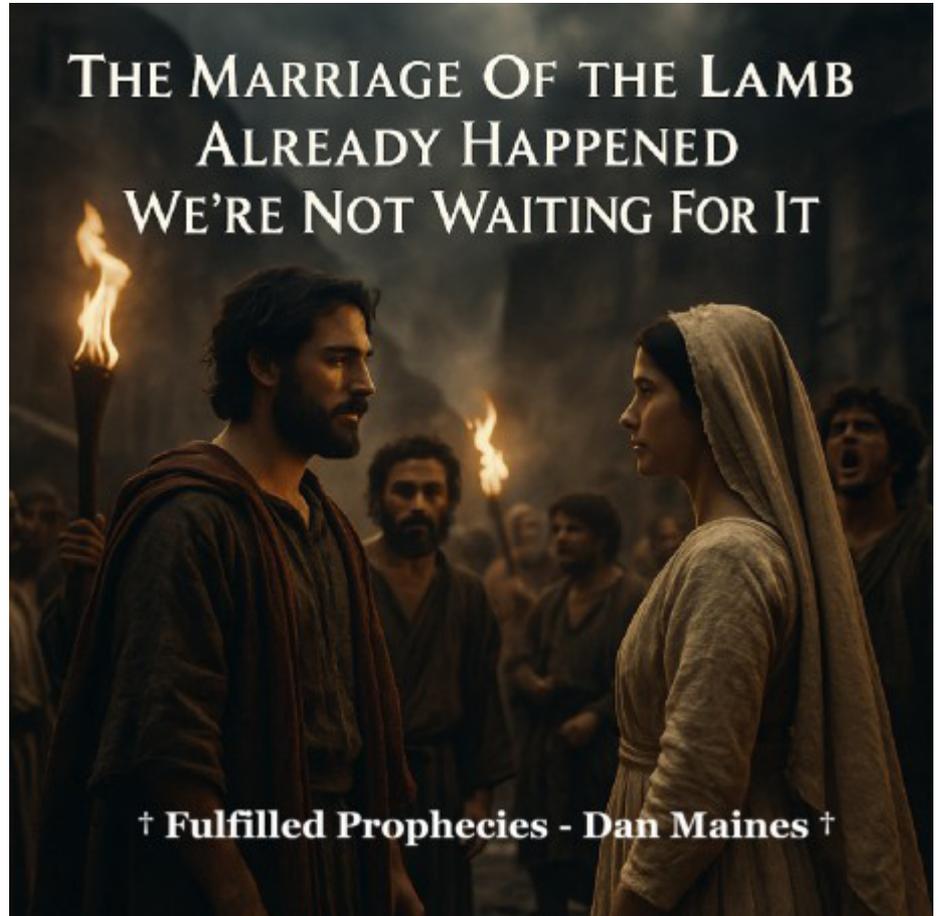
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**The Marriage Of
The Lamb Already
Happened, We're
Not Waiting For It**



By Dan Maines

The Marriage Of The Lamb Already Happened, We're Not Waiting For It

Introduction

† Most Christians today still believe the marriage of the Lamb is a future event. They picture a wedding in heaven thousands of years after the first century, with Christ and the church finally being united. But the Bible never places the marriage in our future. Scripture shows it was tied directly to the fall of Jerusalem, the end of the Old Covenant age, and the arrival of the New Covenant world. The marriage of the Lamb is not

something we're waiting for. It already happened.

Jesus Identified The Timing Of The Wedding Feast

Matthew 22:1-7 shows the king preparing a wedding feast for his son, sending invitations, and judging those who rejected the invitation. Verse 7 says the king sent his armies, burned their city, and only then did the wedding proceed.

† Jesus connected the wedding feast to the destruction of Jerusalem, tying the marriage directly to the end of the Old Covenant world.

Why Jesus Spoke Of The Wedding As Near

† Jesus consistently described the kingdom as something arriving soon, within their generation. When He spoke of the wedding feast, He was describing the covenant transition. The people rejecting the Son were the same ones who would face judgment in AD 70. The wedding was not distant. It was approaching in their lifetime.

The Marriage Is Announced After Babylon Falls

Revelation 19:1-7 announces the marriage of the Lamb. Verse 2 says God judged the great harlot. Verse 3 says her smoke rises forever. Babylon's fall is celebrated. Then verse 7 says the marriage has come.

† The marriage happens only after Babylon is destroyed, and Revelation identifies Babylon as first century Jerusalem, not Rome.

† The fall of Jerusalem is the trigger that brings the marriage.

The Last Days Were The Days Leading To The Marriage

Hebrews 1:1-2 says God spoke in these last days through His Son. James 5:8 says the coming of the Lord was near. 1 Peter 4:7 says the end of all things was near.

† The last days were the final days before the wedding. They belonged to them, not to us.

Paul Taught The Wedding Was Already In Progress

Ephesians 5:25-32 describes Christ loving the church, cleansing her, and presenting her to Himself.

† Paul wasn't predicting a future wedding thousands of years away. He said the union was already being formed in his day.

† The church was being prepared. The bride was being cleansed. The marriage was near.

The Passing Of The Old Covenant Was The Removal Of The Former Bride

† Israel was called God's wife throughout the Old Testament. Her unfaithfulness filled the prophets. Her covenant relationship was ending. The destruction of Jerusalem marked the end of that marriage. Only then could the true bride, the body of Christ, stand fully united with the Lamb.

The New Covenant Is The World Of The Married Bride

Revelation 21:2 says the New Jerusalem is the bride.

Revelation 21:9-10 repeats it. The bride descends after the first heaven and earth pass away.

† That is covenant language.

† The old creation of Law and death passed away. The new creation of grace and life appeared.

† The bride came into full covenant union with Christ when the Old Covenant world ended.

The Kingdom Arrived When The Marriage Was Complete

Mark 9:1 says some standing there would not taste death until they saw the kingdom. Matthew 16:27-28 says the Son of Man would come in His kingdom in their lifetime. Luke 21:31-32 says when they saw those things happen, the kingdom was near, and that generation would not pass away.

† The kingdom didn't delay. It arrived when the Old Covenant world ended, and the bride entered the marriage.

Prophetic Consistency

† Jesus spoke of the wedding in their generation.

- † John recorded the marriage after Jerusalem's fall.
- † Paul taught the church was being prepared in his day.
- † All three testimonies point to the same first century fulfillment.

What Didn't Happen At The Marriage

- † The planet didn't end.
- † History didn't stop.
- † The physical world didn't collapse.
- † Only the Old Covenant marriage to national Israel ended, and the New Covenant marriage to the church was revealed.

Covenant Access After The Marriage

- † The bride now has full access to the groom. No temple, no veil, no priesthood, no earthly mediator. The marriage means direct, permanent, unbroken covenant union with Christ.

Ancient Jewish Wedding Pattern

John 14:2-3 shows Jesus going to prepare a place for His people, returning to receive them.

- † This follows the exact Jewish wedding pattern, the betrothal, the preparation, the coming of the groom, and the wedding feast.

- † The New Testament consistently uses Jewish marriage imagery because the early church understood this pattern.

- † When Jesus said He was going to prepare a place, He was speaking covenantally, not architecturally.

Why The Bride Had To Change

Jeremiah 3:8 says God gave faithless Israel a certificate of divorce.

- † Israel's unfaithfulness ended her covenant marriage.

- † The destruction of Jerusalem marked the end of that relationship.

- † Only then could the true bride, the church, take her place in full covenant union with Christ.

Judgment Before The Marriage

Matthew 22 shows judgment before the wedding. Revelation 19 shows judgment before the marriage.

† The same sequence appears in every prophetic pattern, judgment first, restoration second, marriage last.

† The marriage of the Lamb does not happen until the old order is judged and removed.

The Bride's Righteous Garments

Revelation 19:7-8 says the bride is clothed in righteous acts of the saints.

† These weren't garments of a distant future church.

† They were the righteous acts of the first century believers who endured persecution leading up to AD 70.

† Their faithfulness prepared the bride for the marriage.

Covenant Consummation In Full

† The marriage symbolizes covenant consummation, not romantic imagery.

† The removal of the temple, priesthood, and sacrificial system meant the new covenant had reached its completion.

† This is why the marriage marks the arrival of full access to God.

Hosea's Prophetic Preview Fulfilled

Hosea 2:19-23 shows God promising a future marriage with a faithful bride.

† Hosea's marriage was the prophetic preview.

† The New Covenant marriage is the fulfillment.

† The faithless wife of the Old Covenant was replaced by the faithful bride of the New Covenant.

Historical Writers

† Eusebius recorded the destruction of Jerusalem as the clear fulfillment of Jesus' warnings in Matthew 22 and 24, tying judgment and covenant transition together.

† Justin Martyr described the New Covenant people as the true

Israel, the bride in union with Christ after the old order had passed.

† Josephus documented the fall of Jerusalem, the judgment Jesus spoke of in the wedding parable.

† Understanding the marriage in its true historical setting strengthens our grasp of prophecy and confirms the absolute faithfulness of Christ.

How It Applies To Us Today

† We're not waiting for the marriage of the Lamb. We're living in the world after the marriage. Christ and His bride are already united. The New Covenant is complete, the kingdom is open, and our relationship with the Father is fully restored. This gives confidence, peace, and clarity. It frees us from fear, removes confusion, and anchors us in the finished work of Christ.

† The marriage wasn't a future hope. It was the covenant union that brought the kingdom into full reality.

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

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Source Index

† Matthew 22:1-7, Revelation 19:1-7, Hebrews 1:1-2, James 5:8, 1 Peter 4:7, Ephesians 5:25-32, Mark 9:1, Matthew 16:27-28, Luke 21:31-32, Revelation 21:2, 9-10, Jeremiah 3:8, Hosea 2:19-23, John 14:2-3

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