

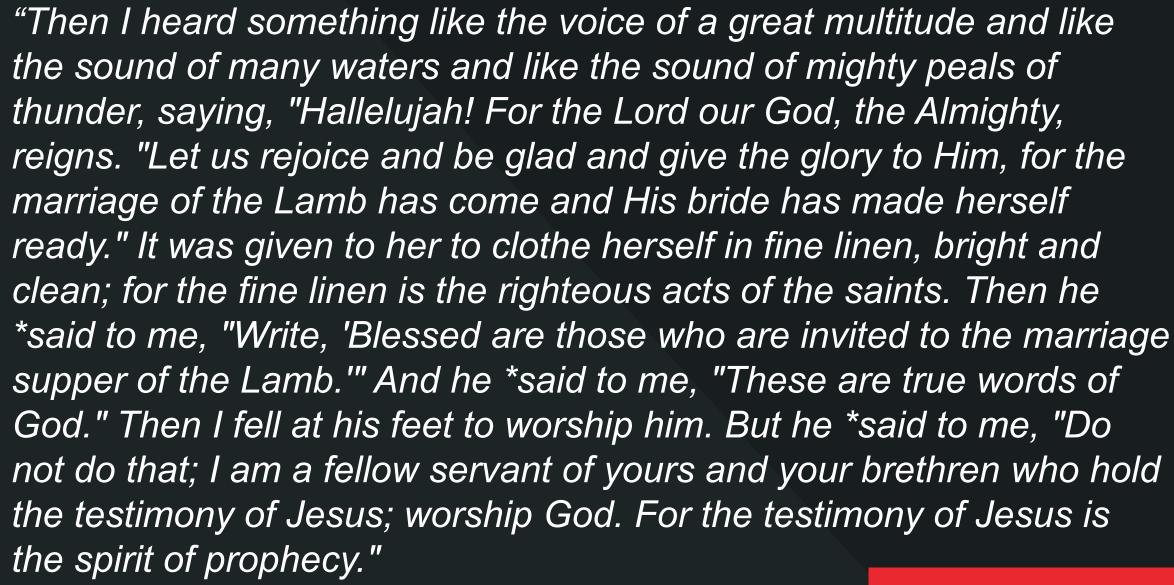


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#### **TODAY'S PASSAGE Revelation 19:6-10**



#### THE FATHER CHOOSES THE BRIDE

THE REAL DEAL MARRIAGE

Even though it is not a popular idea today, Hebrew tradition reveals the groom's father played a significant role in "picking" the bride for his son. The father looked for economic, social, and spiritual qualities and a pure bloodline. These elements were important for the father because these qualities would preserve his investments. It took the wisdom of a father to look through the son's desires of the flesh to marry and assist him in finding a bride who would be a suitable helpmate.



2021

Preparing for Hebrew 2023

# DEFINITION BETROTHED

Betroth = be-troth (' ארשׂ, aras) derives from the word "troth" or the Hebrew word for "trooth" (' אמת, žemeth) or truth. The literal meaning here is to "be" engaged in "trooth." This explains the critical reason why the parents worked diligently in the "negotiations of dowry" to discover the truth of the groom, his family, the bride, and her family. When you are married, you married tribes, and tribes have traditions and beliefs that affected the couple for generations to come.



### NEGOTIATIONS OF ENGAGEMENT

**Genesis 34:6-17--This passage is one of the** clearest Hebrew pictures of the betrothal process. The situation here is Prince Shekem **lusted after one of Jacob's daughters (Dinah)** took her to the field and had sex with her. Her protective brothers found out about it, and now we have the betrothal process. Note: Even though the situation here is grim, the process of betrothal is quite clear. It all starts with a conference, as such, between the parental parties. As in the case with Hamor, the father of Shekem (son of lust), and Jacob (the father of Dinah), the parents on both sides are the principals of authority in the negotiation.



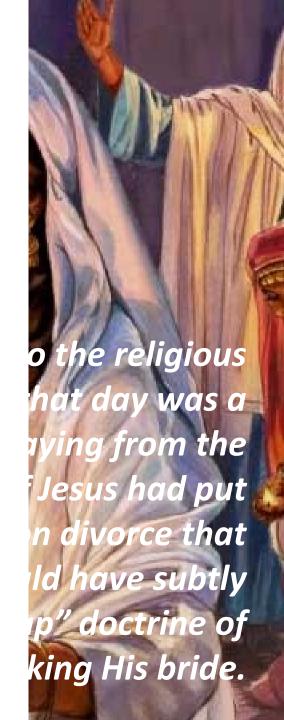
# JESUS THE BRIDE GROOM

Matthew 25:1-- "Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins. who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom." The coming of Christ (to receive His people to Himself) is often represented by the likeness of a marriage, with the Church representing His spouse or bride. The marriage relationship is the most tender, firm, and endearing of any known-on earth, and on this account, it rightfully represents the union of believers to Christ (Matt. 9:15; John 3:29; Rev. 19:7; 21:9; Eph. 5:25-32).



## IN CONCLUSION

Ten virgins--These virgins, without question, represent the Church. Virgin is the name given because it is pure and holy (2 Cor. 11:2; Lam. 1:15; 2:13). These virgins took their lamps and went forth to meet the bridegroom. The lamps used on such occasions were torches. They were made by winding rags around pieces of iron or pottery, sometimes hollowed to contain oil and fastened to wood handles. These torches were dipped in oil and gave out a lot of light. Marriage ceremonies in the East were conducted with great ritual and seriousness.





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