

KEY STATEMENTS FOR THE 2025 MEMORIAL DAY BLENDING CONFERENCE

**The Bible is a romance,
in the most pure and the most holy sense,
of a universal couple—God in Christ as the Bridegroom
and God’s redeemed people as the bride—
the goal of the Lord’s recovery.**

**The Lord’s primary work in the recovery
is His genuine work to prepare us to be His glorious bride;
apart from the continual, dispositional sanctification spoken of in Ephesians 5:26,
there is no way for the bride to be prepared and, hence,
no way for Revelation 19:7-9 to be fulfilled.**

**As used in the New Testament, the word *mature* refers to
the believers’ being full-grown and perfected in the life of Christ,
which they received at the time of regeneration.**

**The Lord’s recovery is for the preparation of the bride of Christ;
ultimately, we will be conformed to be the wonderful Shulammite, who,
as the duplication of Solomon, is the greatest and ultimate figure
of the New Jerusalem as the counterpart, the bride, of Christ.**

HWMR: THE PREPARATION OF THE BRIDE (Week 1)

Scripture Reading: Rev. 19:7-9; John 1:29; 3:29; S. S. 1:2-3; 8:14

The Bride—the Goal of the Lord's Recovery

- Rev 19:7 Let us rejoice and exult, and let us give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.
- Rev 19:8 And it was given to her that she should be clothed in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteousnesses of the saints.
- Rev 19:9 And he said to me, Write, Blessed are they who are called to the marriage dinner of the Lamb. And he said to me, These are the true words of God.
- John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
- John 3:29 He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices with joy because of the bridegroom's voice. This joy of mine therefore is made full.
- S. S. 1:2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth! / For your love is better than wine.
- S. S. 1:3 Your anointing oils have a pleasant fragrance; / Your name is like ointment poured forth; / Therefore the virgins love you.
- S. S. 8:14 Make haste, my beloved, / And be like a gazelle or a young hart / Upon the mountains of spices

Day 1

- Matthew 25:6* - But at midnight there was a cry, Behold, the bridegroom! Go forth to meet him!
- 2 Corinthians 11:2* - For I am jealous over you with a jealousy of God; for I betrothed you to one husband to present you as a pure virgin to Christ.

- I. The Bible is a romance, in the most pure and the most holy sense, of a universal couple—God in Christ as the Bridegroom and God's redeemed people as the bride—John 3:29; Matt. 25:6; Rev. 19:7; 21:2; 22:17:**
- A. Throughout the centuries God has had a romance with man; He created man with the purpose of having a counterpart—Gen. 1:26.
 - B. God is a lover, and He created man in the image of Himself as a lover; this means that He created us so that we would love Him—Mark 12:30; Eph. 3:14-19.
 - C. The entire Bible is a divine romance, and Song of Songs is an abridged form of this romance—1:2-3; 8:14:
 1. The Bible is a romantic book, and our relationship with the Lord should become more and more romantic.
 2. If there is no romance between us and the Lord Jesus, then we are religious Christians, not romantic Christians—S. S. 1:2-3.
 3. Romance is a word of the divine courtship; in the Bible we see that God is seeking our love—2 Cor. 11:2.
 4. Song of Songs is more than a romance; it is a fantastic romance.

- D. Whatever we love, **our whole heart**, even our entire being, is set on and occupied and possessed by—1 Tim. 6:10-11; 2 Tim. 3:2-4; 4:8, 10a; Titus 1:8:
1. “To love God means to set **our entire being**—spirit, soul, and body, with the heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30)—absolutely on Him, that is, to let our entire being be occupied by Him and lost in Him” (footnote 3 on 1 Cor. 2:9).
 2. To love the Lord Jesus is to **appreciate** Him, to **direct our being** to Him, to **open** to Him, to **enjoy** Him, to **give Him the first place**, to be **one with Him**, to **live** Him, and to **become Him**—Matt. 26:6-13; 2 Cor. 3:16; Mark 12:30; Col. 1:18; 1 Cor. 6:17; Phil. 1:20-21; *Hymns*, #477, stanza 2.

Immediately after the record of God’s creation, we find the story of a marriage. In this marriage Adam is the type of Christ as the husband, and Eve is the type of the church as the wife. In Ephesians 5 we see the couple typified by Adam and Eve—Christ and the church. The type of Adam and Eve reveals that the persons of this **universal couple must be of the same source**. God created one person, Adam, and out from this person a wife came. Eve was not created separately by God; she came out of Adam. Eve was made out of a rib, a piece of bone, that came from Adam, indicating that both Adam and Eve proceeded out of the same source. In this universal couple the **wife must come out of the husband**. Likewise, the **church must come out of Christ**. The two persons of this couple must be of the same source. They also must be of one nature. Furthermore they must share one common life. Adam’s nature and life were also Eve’s. Eve had the same nature and life as Adam. The two persons of this couple were of one source, of one nature, and had the same one life. Without doubt, they also had one living. They lived together. Eve lived by Adam and with Adam, and Adam lived by Eve and with Eve.

This couple is the secret of the universe. The secret of the whole universe is that **God and His chosen ones are to be one couple**. Hallelujah! We, God’s chosen ones, and God are of one source, of one nature, and have one life. Now we also need to have one living. We are not living by ourselves or for ourselves; we are **living with God and for God**, and **God is living with us and for us**. Hallelujah!

In the case of Adam and Eve we saw that the couple had one source, one nature, one life, and one living. In Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Hosea we saw that God desires to have a wife who will live together with Him. God longs to have a marriage life, to have **divinity live together with humanity**. But His people failed Him. In Song of Songs, however, we see the genuine marriage life. What is the secret of such a romance? The secret is that the **wife must take her husband not only as her life and her living, but as her person**. (*Life Study of Romans, Message 1*)

Day 2

Revelation 21:2 - *And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

Revelation 21:9-10 - *Come here; I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb. And he carried me away in spirit onto a great and high mountain and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.*

II. Revelation 19:7-9 unveils Christ as the Bridegroom:

- A. The **marriage of the Lamb** is the issue of the completion of God's New Testament economy, which is to **obtain for Christ a bride**, the **church**, through His judicial redemption and by the organic salvation in His divine life—Gen. 2:22; Rom. 5:10; Rev. 19:7-9; 21:2, 9-11.
- B. The **bride of Christ** in Revelation 19 is composed of **all the overcomers**—vv. 7-9; cf. Gen. 2:22; Matt. 16:18.
- C. **All the overcomers** will be the New Jerusalem as the **bride of Christ** for one thousand years in its initial and fresh stage—Rev. 19:7.
- D. Eventually, all the **believers will join the overcomers** to consummate and complete the New Jerusalem in full as the **wife of Christ** in the new heaven and new earth for eternity—21:2, 9-11.

The **marriage of the Lamb** will also follow the **judgment at the judgment seat of Christ**. After all the raptures and before the wedding, there will be the judgment at the judgment seat of Christ to determine which believers will be **qualified** for the **wedding feast**. If you are rewarded at the judgment seat of Christ, you will participate in the wedding feast. If you are **not rewarded** but are disapproved of by the Lord, you will not perish; yet **you will suffer a loss** like that described in 1 Corinthians 3:15. This verse, says, “*If anyone's work shall be consumed, he shall suffer loss, but he shall be saved, yet so as through fire.*” The saved ones who suffer loss will certainly miss the wedding feast. According to Matthew 25:1-13, the five wise virgins will be admitted to the wedding feast, and the five foolish ones will be rejected.

The judgment at the judgment seat of Christ will not determine whether or not we shall be saved or perish; it will decide whether **we shall receive a reward from the Lord or suffer a loss**. Only the saved will appear before this judgment seat. As the Lord is coming down from heaven to earth, He will linger for a time in the air, where He will take care of certain matters. The judgment seat of Christ will be set up in the air, and the wedding will also take place there. After this judgment and after the wedding, Christ will descend with His chosen ones as His army to fight against Antichrist in the war at Armageddon. Hence, both the judgment seat and the wedding will take place in the air. Therefore, the wedding will take place after the destruction of the prostitute, after all the raptures, and after the judgment at the judgment seat of Christ. As we shall see, **those who are chosen at the judgment seat will be the Bride and also the guests at the feast**. The **guests** will be the **corporate Bride**. (Life Study of Revelation, Message 54)

Day 3

- Revelation 19:7** - *Let us rejoice and exult, and let us give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready*
- John 3:29** - *He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices with joy because of the bridegroom's voice. This joy of mine therefore is made full.*

We must be the **bride for Christ**. When we are eager to be the bride, Christ will receive His satisfaction. Not only will Christ be satisfied, but we also will be satisfied. Revelation 19:7 says, “*Let us rejoice and exult.*” In principle, a **bride is the most pleasant and happy person**. Today as the church, Christ’s counterpart, we are **suffering** and undergoing **many dealings**. But the day is coming when there will be no more persecutions, sufferings, or dealings. When we have **become the bride, all the difficult dealings will be over**. (The Conclusion of the New Testament, Message 424)

In Revelation 19:6 the voice of the great multitude proclaims, “*Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.*” The reign of God, the kingdom, is related to the marriage of the Lamb, and the **marriage of the Lamb is the issue of the completion of God’s New Testament economy**. God’s economy in the New Testament is that Christ would obtain the bride, the church, through His redemption and divine life. The subject of the New Testament is the Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—working together to obtain the bride for the Son. The Father made the plan, the Spirit carries out the Father’s plan, and the Son enjoys what the Father has planned and what the Spirit carries out. The bride is a part of the human race who will marry the Son and become His counterpart. Matthew 28:19 speaks of the Father, the Son, and the Spirit. In Acts and the Epistles we see how the Spirit works according to the Father’s plan to obtain the bride for the Son. The entire New Testament is simply a record of the Triune God working together to gain a part of the human race to be the bride, the counterpart, of the Son. At the end of the New Testament, in the book of Revelation, we see the bride. By the **continual working of the Holy Spirit** through all the centuries, the goal of the **Triune God will be attained** at the end of this age. Then the bride with the overcoming believers will be ready. Simultaneously, the kingdom of God will come. This corresponds to the Lord’s prophecy in Matthew 26:29, which speaks of the kingdom of God—the kingdom of Christ’s Father—in which Christ will drink with us after His coming back.

The wedding will bring in the reign of the Lord, the kingdom, because all the guests invited to the wedding will be both the **corporate bride and the co-kings of the Bridegroom**. The Bridegroom, who will take the whole earth as His kingdom, certainly needs many sub-kings to be His co-kings. All His co-kings will be His corporate bride.

The wedding, which will take place in the air, will last a short time. After the wedding, there will be the wedding feast. A wedding feast is always much longer than the wedding. Matthew 22 indicates that the wedding feast will be the millennial kingdom. To the overcomers, the thousand years of the millennial kingdom will be a wedding feast. To the Lord, a thousand years are like one day. **Everyone invited to the wedding feast will also participate in the thousand-year reign as kings**. Our King will be the Bridegroom; we, His co-kings, will be His bride; and the thousand years will be our wedding feast and honeymoon with our Bridegroom, Christ. (The Conclusion of the New Testament, Message 424)

Day 4

Revelation 19:7 - ...The marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.

Hebrews 6:1 - Therefore leaving the word of the beginning of Christ, let us be brought on to maturity...

III. The **bride is the goal of the Lord’s recovery—19:7-9:**

A. “The **marriage of the Lamb** has come”—v. 7b:

1. In the beginning of his Gospel, John speaks of the **Lamb and the Bridegroom**, and in Revelation he says that the **marriage of the Lamb has come**—John 1:29; 3:29.

2. After the **rapture** of the majority of the saints (Rev. 14:16; 1 Thes. 4:15-16) and the judgment at the **judgment seat** of Christ for the giving of the **reward** (Rev. 11:18; 2 Cor. 5:10), the events that immediately follow should include the marriage of the Lamb (Rev. 19:7b):
 - a. If we are **rewarded** at the judgment seat of Christ, **we will participate** in the **wedding feast**.
 - b. If we are **not rewarded** but are disapproved of by the Lord, we will not perish but **will suffer a loss** like that described in 1 Corinthians 3:15.
- B. “His **wife** has made herself **ready**”—Rev. 19:7c:
 1. *His wife* refers to the **church** (Eph. 5:24-25, 31-32), the **bride of Christ** (John 3:29).
 2. According to Revelation 19:8-9, the wife, the bride of Christ, consists **only of the overcoming believers during the millennium**, whereas the bride, the wife, in 21:2 is **composed of all the saved saints after the millennium** for eternity.
 3. The readiness of the bride depends on the **maturity in life of the overcomers**—19:7; Heb. 6:1; Phil. 3:12-15; Eph. 4:13.
 4. We need to adorn and consummate the New Jerusalem as the bride of Christ with **God the Father** as the **gold**, **God the Son** as the **pearl**, and **God the Spirit** as the **precious stones**—Rev. 21:2, 19a; 1 Cor. 3:12; S. S. 1:10-11.
 5. The overcomers are not separate individuals but a **corporate bride**.
 6. The overcomers not only are **mature** in life but also are **built together as one bride**.

Day 5

- Revelation 19:8* - And it was given to her that she should be clothed in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteousnesses of the saints
- Philippians 3:9* - And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God and based on faith.

- C. “It was given to her that she should be clothed in **fine linen**, **bright** and **clean**; for the fine linen is the **righteousnesses** of the saints”—Rev. 19:8:
 1. *Clean* refers to the **nature**, and *bright* refers to the **expression**.
 2. The Greek word translated “righteousnesses” may also be rendered “righteous acts.”
 3. The righteousnesses do not refer to the righteousness that we received for our salvation—1 Cor. 1:30.
 4. The **righteousness we received** for our salvation is **objective** and enables us to meet the requirement of the righteous God, whereas in Revelation 19:8 the **righteousnesses of the overcoming saints are subjective** (Phil. 3:9) and enable them to meet the requirement of the overcoming Christ.
 5. Thus, the **fine linen** indicates our **overcoming life**, our **overcoming living**; it is the Christ whom we live out of our being.

Day 6

- Revelation 19:9* - And he said to me, Write, Blessed are they who are called to the marriage dinner of the Lamb. And he said to me, These are the true words of God.
- Matthew 22:2* - The kingdom of the heavens has become like a king who prepared a wedding feast for his

son.

Matthew 22:14 - For many are called but few are chosen.

- D. “Blessed are they who are called to the **marriage dinner of the Lamb**... These are the true words of God”—Rev. 19:9:
1. The marriage dinner of the Lamb is the **wedding feast**, the kingdom of one thousand years, which is one day in the eyes of God, as a **reward to the overcoming believers**—v. 9; Matt. 22:2, 11-14; 2 Pet. 3:8.
 2. To be **called** to the marriage dinner of Christ, which will **usher** the overcoming believers into the **enjoyment of the millennium**, is to be blessed—Rev. 19:9.
 3. The **marriage dinner of the Lamb** in Revelation 19:9 is the **wedding feast** in Matthew 22:2; it will be a **reward** to the overcoming believers:
 - a. To be **called is to receive salvation** (Rom. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:2; Eph. 4:1), whereas to be **chosen is to receive a reward**.
 - b. **Only the overcomers** will be called to the marriage dinner as a reward to them; not all the saved ones will participate in it.
 - c. The **overcoming believers**, who will be called to the marriage dinner of the Lamb, will also be the **bride of the Lamb**—Rev. 19:8-9.