

LOUD CRY
COMPENDIUM

The Bride



The Bride Of Christ

In Scripture God speaks to us literally, but He also speaks in signs, symbols and similitudes or likenesses. Says the prophet, *“I have also spoken by the prophets... and used similitudes...”*

Hosea 12:10

In another place the Holy Spirit says through the Apostle John that He, *Jesus*, *“sent and signified it”* **Revelation 1:1**.

This word “signify” means to indicate something by signs and symbols. For e.g., as the visions of the Book of Revelation and the Book of Daniel, were revealed unto John and Daniel respectively, in signs and symbols. With that being said, let us see what Christ teaches us about the Bride.

Q. What does the Holy Spirit tell us that a woman is likened to in Scripture?

A. A woman is symbolic of a professed body of believers. She can be faithful or unfaithful.

Jeremiah 6:2; Isaiah 51:16; Revelation 12:1; Revelation 17:1-6

Q. With this understanding, what then can we learn from Genesis 3:15?

A. We understand that from the time sin entered into the world, conflict would arise between, the Church of God and the followers of satan. There would be enmity between the serpent and the woman. Christ would have His followers & the devil would have his until the end of this great controversy.

Genesis 3:15

All references are from the KJV Bible



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Q. What does God tell us about the children of Israel in the Old Testament, considering His relationship with Him?

A. The children of Israel, when they walked according to all of the statutes of God and were obedient to Him, were referred to as His Bride.

Jeremiah 3:14,20; Isaiah 54:5; Isaiah 62:5; Ezekiel 16:8

Q. What does God tell us about the Church of the New Testament, considering His relationship with it?

A. The Church is also referred to as His Bride.

Ephesians 5:25-27,32; 2 Corinthian 11:2

Note: This woman, in a pure state, throughout Scripture, has always had two stages, both in OT and NT.

When she was walking according to the statutes of God, being faithful to Him and keeping His Commandments, she was called His Bride, “*clothed with the sun and the moon under her feet and upon her head a crown of twelve stars.*” **Revelation 12:1.**

Q. Despite being referred to as His Bride, at times throughout the Old Testament, the Church (*Israel*) had departed from the worship of God. What is she then referred to in this state of apostasy?

A. In her fallen, apostate state, she is referred to as an **harlot** or **whore**.

Ezekiel 16:15-16,20,26,30,32; Jeremiah 3:1,8-9

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Q. What council does the Apostle Paul give us regarding the experiences and history of Ancient Israel?

A. We are to learn from the examples of Israel, as they were written for our admonition.

1 Corinthians 10:1-11

Q. What does God say about His character. Can He change?

A. No, God does not change His way of working. Therefore, if the faithful Church in times past is referred to as His Bride, and the apostate, fallen Church as a harlot, then we can guarantee, it means the same to Him today.

Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8

With that being said, I would admonish you to read Revelation 12 & Revelation 17 and compare the contrasting descriptions given of those two women. Additionally, have a read of our other Bible study guide called, "The Harlot", as it will further add more details and information to this study and by God's grace help you to better understand these important spiritual truths.

Be Blessed.

In both the Old and the New Testament, the marriage relation is employed to represent the tender and sacred union that exists between Christ and His people. To the mind of Jesus the gladness of the wedding festivities pointed forward to the rejoicing of that day when He shall bring home His bride to the Father's house, and the redeemed with the Redeemer shall sit down to the marriage supper of the Lamb. He says, "As the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee." "Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; ... but thou shalt be called My Delight; ... for the Lord delighteth in thee." "He will rejoice over thee with joy; He will rest in His love, He will joy over thee with singing." Isaiah 62:5, 4, margin; Zephaniah 3:17. When the vision of heavenly things was granted to John the apostle, he wrote: "I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunders, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to Him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready." "Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb."

Revelation 19:6, 7, 9

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