

In Search of Church: The Church is the Bride of Christ

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – May 31, 2020

Revelation 19:7-8

7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. 8 Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.)

Revelation 21:1-2

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

The Bride of Christ...

1. **EMBRACES THE SACRIFICIAL LOVE OF THE BRIDEGROOM**

Ephesians 5:25-27

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her 26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Deuteronomy 7:9

9 Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.

The Bride of Christ...

2. **MAKES HERSELF BEAUTIFUL FOR THE BRIDEGROOM**

Revelation 19:7-8

7... the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. 8 Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.)

Revelation 21:2

2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

The Bride of Christ...

3. **REMAINS FAITHFUL TO THE BRIDEGROOM**

Exodus 20:2-3

2 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. 3 "You shall have no other gods before me.

John 3:29-30

[John the Baptist said] 29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom...
30 He must become greater; I must become less.