

The Wedding Supper of the Lamb is NOT a Supper

Revelation 19:9



Revelation 19:9

**And the angel said to me,
“Write this: Blessed are those
who are invited to the
marriage supper of the Lamb.”
And he said to me, “These are
the true words of God.”**



Revelation 19:7



- Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, **for the marriage of the Lamb has come,** and his Bride has made herself ready;

The marriage of the Lamb is the formal union of bride and the bridegroom.

In this case, the bride is the church and the bridegroom is Christ—the Lamb of God.

The separation between the people of God and their God has been eliminated.

This is glorious figurative language describing the formalization of God dwelling with his people.



Perhaps we could think of it like this:

- 1. We, the bride, are engaged to Christ, the bridegroom, through faith in the gospel.**
- 2. The Holy Spirit, the guarantee or pledge (earnest), is like the engagement ring the bride wears indicating she is in a formal relationship with a man.**
- 3. We are living in separate houses (earth v. heaven) waiting for the wedding day when we will no longer be apart one from another.**



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Let's Look @

**The Last Sentence
in the verse First!**



Revelation 19:9b



- **And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.”**

**This is what we believe
about the Bible.**

This is why we are here this morning; this is why we are watching online right now. This is why someone will listen to this message latter in the week...

We believe the words in this book Revelation and this book the Bible are **'the true words of God.'**

- 1. We believe there is a God.**
- 2. We believe this God communicated with prophets and apostles through the Holy Spirit.**
- 3. We believe this communication is bound up in a book we call the Bible containing two testaments and 66 books.**



Revelation 19:9



- And the angel said to me, “Write

this: **Blessed**

This is a super big deal!

This blessed is different from:

- Blessed the bread was on sale
- **Blessed the report came back negative**
- Blessed I got an A on the test
- **Blessed I have a healthy child**
- Blessed we made it through the storm
- **Blessed I didn't need an operation**
- Blessed we won the tournament



**This blessed is like
the blessed found
in the Sermon on
the Mount.**



Matthew 5:3-4

- “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.



Matthew 5:5–6

- “Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
- “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.



Matthew 5:7-8

- “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
- “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.



Matthew 5:9–10

- “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
- “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.



This is beyond uber-blessed.

This is the ultimate of blessed because those invited to this supper spend eternity with God in his kingdom forever and ever.

And forever will not seem like potentially weary because our bodies will be different and our mindset will be changed.



Revelation 19:9



- And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to

**Only those who accept
the invitation to follow
Christ this side of
eternity will be invited
to the marriage supper
of the Lamb.**



Revelation 19:9



- And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to **the marriage supper of the Lamb.**”

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What is the Marriage Supper of the Lamb?



**The global church is divided over what is the
“Marriage Supper of the Lamb.”**

From www.gotquestions.org:

“The marriage supper of the Lamb is a glorious celebration of all who are in Christ! It is our view that the marriage supper of the Lamb takes place in heaven between the rapture and the second coming (during the tribulation on earth).”



It is my view that the reference to the marriage supper of the Lamb here is NOT a particular eschatological event on God's timeline and it certainly does not take place in heaven before the return of Christ.

What is the Marriage of the Lamb?



Marriage of the Lamb

An image that portrays the believer's intimate relationship and eternal fellowship with Christ, which commences at the conclusion of history.

Michael Kuykendall, ed. John D. Barry et al., *The Lexham Bible Dictionary*

What then is the supper associated with the marriage?



The marriage is the permanent union of God's people with their God and His Christ—their Savior.

The supper is the glorious and joyful celebration of the actualization of what has been anticipated since Genesis 3 when humanity was first separated from its Creator.



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Turn to Luke 14:15



This joyous celebration is NOT happening in heaven during the tribulation.

How can we the people of God celebrate while other believers in Jesus are dying for their faith in Christ when they refuse to take the mark of the beast?



In Revelation we have not seen believers celebrating; instead, we have seen the dead in Christ asking:

Rev. 6:10

They cried out with a loud voice, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, **how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?””**



We will celebrate when

- **God's righteous judgment is done**



We will celebrate when

- God's righteous judgment is done
- **God's plan of redemption is complete**



We will celebrate when

- **God's righteous judgment is done**
- **God's plan of redemption is complete**
- **Satan, the beast, and the false prophet have been judged**



We will celebrate when

- God's righteous judgment is done
- God's plan of redemption is complete
- Satan, the beast, and the false prophet have been judged
- **The sheep have been separated from the goats**



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- **The blood of the martyrs has been avenged**



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- **God's kingdom has come and His will is being done on earth as it is in heaven**



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- **The blood of the martyrs has been avenged**
- **God's kingdom has come and His will is being done on earth as it is in heaven**
- **The last enemy death has been destroyed**



Luke 14:15

- When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, **“Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!”**



**The big deal is NOT eating bread
in the Kingdom.**

**The big deal is the reality that
the person was invited and NOW
is part of the kingdom of our
Lord and Christ forever and ever.**



The marriage supper is the symbol of the festive, joyous and glorious nature of the inauguration of the kingdom of God.

We the people of God have much to celebrate; we are with our God.

Paul said it like this:

1 Corinthians 13:12

For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.



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Listen to What Jesus Said

Luke 22:15-16



Luke 22:15–16

- And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. **For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”**



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And
v. 18



Luke 22:18

- For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine **until the kingdom of God comes.”**



Mark 14:25

- Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”



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**The Marriage Supper
is the actualization of
“thy Kingdom Come”**



The kingdom of God has come and the kingdom of God is YET to come

This is what Bible scholars describe as the tension between 'already' and 'not yet'

The marriage supper is the symbol of the elimination of all the 'not yet'



Already (Present)

Not Yet (Future)

Jesus is ruling in Heaven

Yet he is not ruling on this earth

Jesus is ruling in the hearts of His people

Yet this rule is often challenged by the flesh and sin

Death has been defeated

Yet death has not been eliminated

Our citizenship is in heaven

Yet we live on this earth

We have been saved

Yet there is still more to our salvation

Satan was crushed in the resurrection

Yet his influence and power is still felt and manifested

Luke 19:11–12

- As they heard these things, he proceeded to tell a parable, because he was near to Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. He said therefore, “**A nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and then return.**”



**We see 'already'
and 'not yet' in
Revelation 5:10**



Revelation 5:10



- and you have made them
a kingdom and priests to our
- God, and they shall reign
on the earth.”

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Last Week
We Dug Into
Matthew 22:1ff



Matthew 22:1

- And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying,

“The kingdom of heaven **may be compared** to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son,



Notice they are NOT being invited to a wedding feast—this is a parable.

In reality they are being invited to become part of the Kingdom of God.

God is inviting them through his Son Jesus to become part of His Kingdom.



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Look @

Isaiah 25:6-8



Isaiah 25:6

- On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

a feast = a supper



**The mountain described in v. 6 is
Mount Zion (Isa 24:23)**

Is this a single feast?

**No, this is language to
communicate provision, well-
being, and blessing.**



I challenge you to read
Isaiah 24-25
this week in light of
what we have been
studying in Revelation.



Isaiah 25:7

- And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

V. 8 helps us understand v. 7



Isaiah 25:8

- He will swallow up death forever;



Isaiah 25:8

- He will swallow up death forever;
**and the Lord GOD will
wipe away tears from
all faces,**



Isaiah 25:8

- He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.



Those who miss the marriage supper of the lamb are NOT just missing a giant feast or banquet.

They are missing entrance into the eternal Kingdom of our Lord and his Christ.

Notice at this banquet:

- 1) Death is being removed.**
- 2) Tears are wiped away.**
- 3) Reproach is being removed.**



**Let me show you
when Revelation
uses the same
kind of language.**



Revelation 21:1-2



- Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

Revelation 21:3



- “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.
- He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

Revelation 21:4



- **He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”**

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Look @ what Jesus told Nicodemus



John 3:5

- Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.**

