

In today's world, wedding celebrations are common and culturally significant. But have you ever tried to attend a wedding without an invitation? You'd likely be turned away at the gate. Even more, some invitations require a contribution or participation in planning otherwise, even with the invitation in hand, you may still not be allowed in.

This earthly reality gives us a powerful glimpse into what awaits in eternity. The Bible speaks of a heavenly banquet **the Marriage Supper of the Lamb** a glorious event prepared by God Himself for His Son, Jesus Christ, and His bride, the Church. This is no ordinary feast. It is the ultimate celebration of love, union, and victory, and participation is by invitation only and that invitation comes with conditions.

The Wedding in Heaven Begins with a Covenant on Earth

Just like earthly weddings require a marriage covenant before the celebration, the same principle applies spiritually. Jesus, the Lamb of God, must first unite with His bride those who have truly surrendered their lives to Him before the celebration in heaven begins.

This union begins here on earth when a person makes the conscious decision to follow Christ, repents of their sins, and is **baptized in water in the name of Jesus Christ** for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). At

that point, they enter into a covenant relationship with Christ and become eligible for the wedding supper.

Blessed Are Those Who Are Invited

The Bible does not use the word *blessed* lightly when referring to this event:

“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 19:9 (ESV)

The word *blessed* (Greek: *makarios*) means more than just “happy.” It denotes someone who is highly favored, fortunate, and eternally privileged. According to Scripture, many who **call themselves Christians** will miss this invitation not because they never heard the Gospel, but because they did not respond appropriately.

"For many are called, but few are chosen."

Matthew 22:14 (KJV)

The Bride Must Be Ready and Clothed in Righteousness

Scripture emphasizes that the bride must be prepared and properly dressed not in casual clothes, but in fine, radiant linen.

"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; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints."

Revelation 19:7-8 (ESV)

Salvation is not just a confession it is a transformed life. The "wedding garment" represents the **righteous acts** of those who have been sanctified. If your life doesn't reflect holiness, you may be holding an invitation you cannot use.

“Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.” Hebrews 12:14 (ESV)

Empty Confession Is Not Enough

Just as one cannot attend a wedding without both an invitation and proper preparation, so too one cannot claim salvation yet continue living in sin: drunkenness, pornography, gossip, hatred, fornication, and so on. The Bible warns that those who live this way will not inherit the kingdom of God (Galatians 5:19-21).

If the Rapture happened today and it could **only the wise virgins** (Matthew 25:1-13) would enter into the celebration. The rest even some believers would remain on earth to face the Great Tribulation under the Antichrist's reign.

Not Every Churchgoer Will Be the Bride

Even nature teaches us. The moon, a biblical symbol for the Church, doesn't always appear whole. Sometimes it's a crescent, sometimes a

half moon. In the same way, **not everyone in the Church is part of the Bride**. Just as some nations and religions use the crescent moon and star as symbols, this prophetically illustrates that **only a small portion** of the Church the pure, holy remnant will be taken up with Christ.

Jesus will not rapture the entire “church” as seen by men. He will rapture **His Bride**, the faithful few who have kept themselves pure and ready (Ephesians 5:27).

The Parable of the Great Banquet

Jesus gave us a sobering parable about the Kingdom of God:

“But they all alike began to make excuses...” Luke 14:18 (ESV)

Those who were originally invited to the banquet began to make excuses business, relationships, possessions. This mirrors how many today neglect the Gospel. So the Master sends His servants to invite **the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame** those the world rejects,

but who humbly accept God's invitation.

"For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet." Luke 14:24 (ESV)

A Loving Warning Don't Be Left Behind

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."
Jeremiah 29:11 (ESV)

God calls us today not to scare us, but to save us. Imagine the horror of realizing the Rapture has occurred that others are in glorified bodies rejoicing in the presence of Jesus, while you're still here on earth, facing the coming wrath and judgment. Don't let that be your story.

"Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man... and all the tribes of the earth will mourn..." Matthew 24:30 (ESV)

The Spirit and the Bride Say, "Come!"

Even now, the Bride the faithful Church cries out with the Holy Spirit:

"The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price." Revelation 22:17 (ESV)

You can lose everything in this life wealth, relationships, opportunities but **do not lose your invitation to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb**. Eternity is at stake. Now is the time to repent, be baptized, and live a holy life as a true disciple of Jesus Christ.

"Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts." Hebrews 3:15 (ESV)

May the Lord bless you and give you the strength to prepare. The invitation has been sent will you accept it?

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