

**Marriage from Genesis to Revelation. Dated April 1996. Unsure if or when shared with SCF\***

The Greek word for marriage is *Gameo*. It means *to fit together, to pair up*. God created man and woman with a view to *us* fitting together. Adam and Eve fitted together as one flesh to fit together with God.

### **Sin Came**

satan came between God and man, making it impossible for mankind to *fit together* with God. There was a divorce - separation now existed between us.

### **Matthew 22 verse 11-14**

*"But when the king came in to look over the dinner guests, he saw a man there who was not dressed in wedding clothes, 12 and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without wedding clothes?' And the man was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 For many are called, but few are chosen."*

Our garments were stained by sin and were unsuitable to wear. Garments are to do with how God sees our lives.

### **Jesus Came**

He came to be our righteousness, our fine linen. And in the book of Revelation we shall see a time when we are dressed in linen that is acceptable to the King.

Jesus will come again to meet with us, His bride, His Church for THE marriage of all time.

Our invitation to this marriage began at Calvary - the Cross, where Jesus loved His Bride so much that He laid down His life willingly that we might love Him in return. He *courts* His Bride today and it is all with a view to marriage. **Not a single person is excluded.**

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We find Jesus at the Cross. Remember the cross has both a vertical and a horizontal member. The vertical represents the Spiritual relationship that is to be restored with Jesus, every person is to be involved with Him. He is to be our first love and secondly we are to see the earthly marriage as symbolic of this first love.

Whether I am married or single, a widow or a widower I am to seek to establish my relationship with Jesus, even as a man.

### **1 Corinthians 7 verse 27-39**

*27 Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be released. Are you released from a wife? Do not seek a wife. 28 But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you. 29 But this I say, brethren, the time has been shortened, so that from now on those who have wives should be as though they had none; 30 and those who weep, as though they did not weep; and those who rejoice, as though they did not rejoice; and those who buy, as though they did not possess; 31 and those who use the world, as though they did not make full use of it; for the form of this world is passing away. 32 But I want you to be free from concern. One who is unmarried is concerned about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord; 33 but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, 34 and his interests are divided. The woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she may please her husband. 35 This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord.*

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*36 but if any man thinks that he is acting unbecomingly toward his virgin daughter, if she is past her youth, and if it must be so, let him do what he wishes, he does not sin; let her marry. 37 But he who stands firm in his heart, being under no constraint, but has authority over his own will, and has decided this in his own heart, to keep his own virgin daughter, he will do well. 38 So then both he who gives his own virgin daughter in marriage does well, and he who does not give her in marriage will do better. 39 A wife is bound as long as her husband lives; but if her husband is dead, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.*

Paul's purpose is to set us free from concern, not to bring frustration.

## **Marriage**

We are not saved or born again only to be good, feel good or look good. We are born again to be prepared, guided and taught by the Holy Spirit for marriage, an intimate relationship with Jesus. The purpose is clearly set out for us in scripture. Adam and Eve fitted together for the purpose of reproducing, being fruitful, giving birth by the planting of the seed of the man into the woman. This is the natural way of increase in mankind.

## **1 Corinthians 15 verse 42-49**

*So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body; 43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 45 So also it is written, "The first MAN, Adam, BECAME A LIVING SOUL."*

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*The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. 46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural; then the spiritual. 47 The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven. 48 As is the earthy, so also are those who are earthy; and as is the heavenly, so also are those who are heavenly. 49 Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.* The scripture above expresses it clearly, we must see the **natural** superceded by the **Spiritual**. Adam, given life became a *living soul*. He was first and Jesus, the second Adam became a *life giving Spirit*. Adam came from the earth and was *earthy*. Jesus came from Heaven and is *Heavenly* and seeks not Eve but a Bride who is spotless and Holy. Flesh and blood, souliness emotions are to be put under the authority of the Holy Spirit.

### **Revelation 19 verse 7-8**

*Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." 8 It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.*

We are called in this Spiritual marriage to show or to wear the garments of righteousness, to perform acts of righteousness.

### **The Fruits of the Reproductive System in the Holy Spirit**

These are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self - control. That which is sown to reproduce these fruits are the seed, the Word of God. This is Godly intercourse.

### **The Fruits of the Earthy Reproductive System in the Flesh**

These are immorality, impurity, sensuality, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissention, factions, envyings, etcetera. We need to be freed from these things.

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Divorce is allowed from such things and to be invited and accepted or to be chosen and finally called will mean going through the process of being sanctified, being prepared and made ready to face the Bridegroom.

Human, natural marriage is to reflect the same principles, husband being like Christ (head), wives being as the Church, obedient and submissive.

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