

- Order of Service -

Call to Worship

Welcoming Prayer

Reading Rev 19:1-10

- 72, Shout to the Lord
- 53, Fairest Lord Jesus
- I stand in awe of You

Announcements and Prayer requests

- **Communion and Pot-luck, today after the service**

Greeting

Message in the Word -

Living in light of the Rapture, the Blessed Hope

After the Rapture? Pt 2 – the Marriage & Marriage Supper of the Lamb

Revelation 19:1-10

Sending prayer

You may notice we don't pass an offering plate

We invite you to participate in the ministry, and the offering box in the foyer is for your gifts and offerings for the Lord's work.

- 2 Corinthians 9:7-8, Galatians 6:6 -

Grace Bible Fellowship

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We are identified with Jesus Christ in his crucifixion, death, burial, resurrection, ascension, and heavenly seating.



- Teaching -

Eric Peterman

Living in light of the Rapture, the Blessed Hope

After the Rapture? Pt 2 – the Marriage & Marriage Supper of the Lamb

Revelation 19:1-10

- November 5th, 2023 -

Living in light of the Rapture, the Blessed Hope

After the Rapture? Pt 2 – the Marriage & Marriage Supper of the Lamb

Revelation 19:1-10

We live in challenging and troubling times. It is a comfort and encouragement for believers to set our minds and hearts on the wonderful future being prepared for us by our Savior. We've seen where the Church will be during the 70th week of Daniel 9 (the last seven years prior to the Second Coming of Christ, which has been popularly called the Tribulation period). Our Blessed Hope consists of our pre-tribulation translation and snatching away in the rapture and the eternal rewards at the Bema seat of Christ. But the blessings don't stop there! The church right now is the promised bride of Christ, betrothed and engaged to Him in this age and anticipating the completion of the image of actually being with Jesus the groom. Our text today anticipates, and John the apostles actually sees and experiences our future: The two spectacular events there are the Marriage of the Lamb, and then the Marriage Supper/feast of the Lamb that follows. These are all included in the Blessed Hope, our hope as the church. Since we are so beloved, let us gaze this morning into this marvel, this gift of grace promised us by our Groom, and purchased with His own blood as an oath of fidelity to us.

Let us join with our brother John and gaze at the Marriage of the Lamb and the Marriage Supper/Feast of the Lamb (two distinct, but related events).

In Revelation 19:7 John recorded part of the loud proclamation of a great multitude in Heaven (vv. 1, 6): *“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.”*

And concerning the church, the bride of Christ who is about to be married to the groom, we have this ancient custom, *v8 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.*

I invite you to do a survey at home of Revelation 5–7; 12–15; 17; 19; 21–22. They clearly indicate that the Lamb is Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords who shed His blood to cleanse sinners.

Look now at Romans 7:4; 2 Corinthians 11:2; and Ephesians

5:22–33 These indicate that the bride of the Lamb is the Church. In light of these identifications, it is evident that Revelation 19:7–9 is referring to the consummation event of the marriage of Jesus Christ to the Church, and the subsequent marriage supper.

Questions: *When and where* are these two events taking place?

At least three answers to these questions have been proposed.

First, the marriage will occur when the Church is raptured to meet Christ in the air at His *Second Coming* and the marriage supper will take place on earth during the Millennium.

Second, the marriage will occur in Heaven when the Church is raptured before the 70th week (Tribulation period), and the marriage supper will take place on earth during the Millennium.

Third, the marriage will occur in Heaven when the Church is *raptured before the 70th week* (Tribulation period), and the marriage supper will take place *in Heaven during the seven years of the 70th week (which occurs and is experienced on earth).*

We are convinced that the 3rd view is the one best supported by the evidence in the Bible. But before we dive into the details, it is vital to understand that in the Revelation, John the Revelator continually draws on OT metaphors, symbols and customs. The sequence of events leading to and including the marriage and marriage supper of the Lamb are no exception. To understand the OT illustrations is to understand John's Revelation. It's not hard. John just asks us to time travel a bit and enter his world.

Lets look at two things first:

First, the terms “marriage” and “marriage supper” in Revelation 19 are grounded in Jewish marriage customs in Bible times. **Second**, Jewish marriage customs in Bible times involved three major steps. The first step was betrothal or legal engagement, the establishment of the marriage covenant that bound the man and woman together as husband and wife (Mal. 2:14; Mt. 1:18–19). This engagement or legal betrothal corresponds to the age in which we live. We have been engaged as the church to Christ, but as yet we are not with Him our husband. (See insert)