His Wife Hath Made Herself Ready

"Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready" (Revelation 19:7).

Jesus said, "As it was in the days of Sodom, so will it be at the coming of the Son of man, when the Son of man is being revealed" (Luke 17:28-30). Not no more as a church, not no more; the Bride's called. "In that day the Son of man will be revealed." What? To join the Church to the Head, unite, the marriage of the Bride.

The Bridegroom call will come right, through this, when the Son of man will come down and come in human flesh to unite the two together. The Church has to be the Word; He is the Word, and the two unite together, and to do that it'll take the manifestation of the revealing of the Son of man.

See, it's Son of man, Jesus Christ, will come down in human flesh among us, and will make His Word so real that it'll unite the Church and Him as one, the Bride, and then she'll go Home to the wedding supper. Amen. She's already united; we go to the wedding supper, not to the marriage. "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come." But the rapture is going to the wedding supper. When the Word here unites with the person, and they two become one, and then what does it do then? It manifests the Son of man again, not the church theologians, the Son of man. The Word and the Church becomes one. Whatever the Son of man done, He was the Word, the Church does the same thing. [1]

When a Christian's first saved, his faith is turned towards Christ, then He's got something to do himself. He has to, next thing, sanctify himself from all unclean habits, "laying aside every weight, making Herself ready (Heb. 12:1-2). The Bride has made Herself ready!" [2]

We know that there is going to be a Bride, and there's going to be a wedding supper served in the skies. That's just as sure to be, as God is, because it's His Word. And we know that those that are going to make up that Bride is going to be His Church, and they're going to appear before Him without spot or wrinkle (Eph. 5:27). And they have the material on earth now to make themselves ready. If you notice, It said, "She has made herself ready."

So many says, "If the Lord will take this evil spirit from me, from drinking, or from gambling, or from lying, or stealing, I'll serve Him."

But that's up to you. See, you got to do something, too. "They that overcome shall inherit all things." (Rev. 21:7). They that overcome. You

have power to do it, but you must be willing to lay it down. See? "She has made Herself ready." I like that Word.

You see, God could not push us through a little pipe, pull us out on the other end, and then saying, "Blessed is he that overcometh." You had nothing to overcome; He just pushed you through. But you've got to make decisions for yourself. I have to make decisions for myself. In doing that, we show our faith and respects to God.

Abraham was promised a child, but he must maintain this promise for twenty-five years, **the ups-and-downs that he had, and temptations,** in those twenty-five years. But he held to the word of the promise.

And Israel was promised a promised land, but they had to fight for every inch of it. "Wherever the soles of your foot treads upon, that have I given you" (Joshua 1:3), God said to Joshua. It was all there. The land was there, and God gave it to them, but they must fight for it.

The same way it is about Divine healing. God has got the power to heal you, if you've got the courage to accept it, but you'll fight every inch of the way.

God has got amazing grace to save you, and He will do it, but you'll fight every inch of your way.

I been behind the pulpit, going on thirty-one years, and every inch of that has been a fight, constantly. It certainly has.

"But we must fight if we must reign." So we find out that the Bride has to make Herself ready. "Be willing to lay aside every weight that does so easily beset us, that we might run with patience the race that's set before us" (Heb. 12:1-3). We must lay them aside, ourselves. We can't say, "God, You come, lay them aside for us." We got to do that, ourselves. [3]

"How is self-will? Why will you call that self-will, Brother Branham?" Because it puts a man and woman back again just like Adam and Eve at the garden of Eden, On what? The two trees? Self-will, this one is death. This one is Life, self-will. Free moral agency... God placed the first man, Adam and Eve, right here on free moral agency. He places you the same place. And the only way that you can get this thing fixed in here is your own self-will. Hallelujah. Your self-will. You have to will to do God's will. You have to get rid of your own will to let God's will come in, for this is the only channel that leads to the heart.

Now, to this gate there's only one, one gate, that's called "self will." You're the boss of what goes in there. And what does it do? What is this? The body must be washed, the laver (Eph. 5:26-27); sanctified, at here; filled with the Holy Spirit here, and this becomes God's judgment seat again, where God sets in your heart, if you do something wrong, say, "Oh, my, I did wrong."

Oh, you can join church, you can come to sanctification. But you have to will to do God's will, self-will, to let the Holy Spirit come in here to bring forth: "These signs shall follow them that believe; In My Name they

shall cast out devils. They shall speak with new tongues. They shall lay their hands on the sick, or take up deadly things, and so forth (Mark 16:17-18). These signs shall follow them that has let their will become My will, and the works that I do shall they do also." I hope you don't miss it. There's a will to do God's will. You see what I mean? [4]

Now, watch, watch. The Bible said His wife has made Herself ready at the end of the age. How did She make Herself ready? To become His wife. And what did she... What kind of garment she had on? His Own Word. She was dressed in His righteousness (Rev. 19:8; I Cor. 1:30-31). [5]

Brother Branham said: Well, all men have forsaken me, but there's one thing, He stood by me... I wasn't disobedient to the heavenly vision that's happened down there on the river. I've stayed true to it. He's been true to me. I'm trusting in Him, someday; I don't know when, for a crowning of my ministry. I'll stay just as true as I could be. I don't know what it'll be; I don't know when it'll be. But when He's ready, I am. Now, look here. I hope He'll crown my ministry with this, of letting me take the clothes of the Word and dress His Bride in the clothes of the Word and for His righteousness. I hope He'll crown me and let me stand there on that day, say, "Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world." (John 1:29). [6]

A rainbow around His head (Rev. 4:2-3), a covenant that God had made through Abraham, through Isaac, through Christ, through the church, by the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The robe of the seven colors that was upon Joseph, that was upon Jesus; it's upon the church today, protects. The body was covered up by the robe. And the church is not you; it's the Holy Ghost that's got you covered with the Blood, God's covenant, predestinated before the foundation of the world (Eph. 1:3-4). Hallelujah. [7]

God washed us by the Blood of His Own Son (Rev. 1:5-6), and cleansed us, put on the robe of the Holy Spirit. And now the great chariot of God will back up to the door someday, and we'll go home to live with Him. All records are destroyed; we can't be judged no more; burn them up, He put them in the sea of forgiveness and remembers about it no more (Micah 7:19; Isaiah 43:25). No wonder we can sing, "Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now I'm found, and was blind, but now I see." [8]

At that moment that He promised, He'll be here. And some of these days we'll take a flight and go away. Just be ready! Keep the wedding garment on! Keep all cruel out of your heart! $_{[2]}$

That's what the church, if it's in order (set in order), it's got the mechanics ready; it only needs then the dynamics. Today if we'll get the mechanics ready, get our hearts right, the things that we can do, follow

every Word, follow Him in water baptism, follow Him in every order that He told us to do, get every mechanic ready, and stand there; then we're ready for the dynamics to be let off, and only God can do that; and that's to drop into your heart that faith that says, "I am now healed." Then don't make any difference what circumstances is, you're healed anyhow; 'cause it's faith, by faith you're healed. [9]

"And he said unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he said unto me. These are the true sayings of God" (Rev. 19:9).

So there's going to be a meeting in the air one of these days, in that sweet, sweet by-and-by. Just stay ready! Keep vourself ready! Purge your heart from all evil thinking! Have faith in God, no matter how dark it looks and how many laughs and makes fun and says you've made a mistake. Keep right on living holy and living for God! Just keep moving on; the hour will arrive. [2]

Some day, too, each one of us will go, one by one, till we drop down along the line like that. Let us now, while we have time, and can, let's prepare ourselves for that time coming: for we don't know when it will be. We don't know who will be next. Let us live so, that at each day, that if it should ever come, it will be for us, we'll be ready. [10]

Therefore, we know that we're at the end time; we're here. I don't know how far away; He will never let us know that, because His coming will be as a thief in the night. But, friend, my brother, sister, let us be ready regardless. Let's just chasten ourselves. See, because the world will go right on. They'll never even know it's happened. When the doors of mercy's closed, preachers will be preaching salvation, causing people to repent, going right on just like it always did. It did in other ages and it will in this age. And the rapture will be so sudden and so quick that the world will never even miss them, that they're gone (I Thess. 4:16-17; I Cor. 15:51-54). That's right. They'll know nothing about it. He comes and slips Her away. It'll be gone; they know nothing about it. So be in prayer. Pray for me. I pray for you. We don't know when that hour will be, but we believe it'll be soon. And stay away from shiny things. Stay with the Gospel! Stay right there now and pray! [11]

Reference:

- [1] "Proving His Word" (65-0426), par. 236 / [2] "Revelation Chapter 4, Part 1" (60-1231), par. 64 / 89-90 [3] "Marriage Of The Lamb" (62-0121E), par. 53-62 / [4] "Revelation, Ch. 4, Pt. 3" (61-0108), par. 228-232 [5] "Birth Pains" (65-0124), par. 196 / [6] "Present Stage Of My Ministry" (62-0908), par. 121 [7] "Israel And The Church, Part 1", par. 160 / [8] "Message Of Grace" (61-0827), par. 163 [9] "I Have Heard, But Now I See" (65-1127E), par. 81 / [10] "Blasphemous Names" (62-1104M), par. 27

[11] "He That Is In You" (63-1110E), par. 25

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