

The Stages of Marriage in Judaism

- Husband's Father/Parents select Bride (*shidduch*)
- A Written Marriage Contract is agreed upon and signed by the Groom and Bride's Father (*Ketubah*)
- A bride price is paid by the groom to bride's father (*Mohar*)
- The couple are now betrothed (*erusin*) declared husband and wife, legally binding as married but do not live together or have sexual relations.
- After the betrothal, the groom would return to his father's house and build a room onto the family home (*insula*) to prepare a new home for his wife
- After a period of time, the groom would return for his wife and they would consummate the marriage (*Nissuin*) and there would be a 7 day wedding feast

1

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 1- Husband's Father/Parents select Bride (*shidduch*)

God Chose Israel as His Bride

Hosea 2:19; Jer 3:14, Isa 54:5; Ezek 16; Deut 7:6

The Lord calls the Church (Jew & Gentile believers his bride) Eph 5:31-32

2

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 2- Bethrothal/Erusin/ Kiddushin

Prospective bridegroom leaves father's house and goes to house of the bride

Likewise

Jesus left heaven to come to earth

Eph 5:31- John 16:38

3

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 2- Bethrothal/Erusin/ Kiddushin

A bride price is paid by the groom to bride's father (Mohar)

Likewise

Jesus paid the Mohar for us. The price of His own blood to purchase His bride.

1 Cor 6:18-20; Mt 20:28

4

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 2- Bethrothal/Erusin/ Kiddushin

A Written Marriage Contract is agreed upon and signed detailing the obligations and responsibility of the groom to the bride. It is called a '*Ketubah*'

Likewise

Jesus initiated a Ketubah at the Passover before His death 1 Cor 11:25; Rev 3:20

5

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 2- Bethrothal/Erusin/ Kiddushin

As a symbol of covenant being established bride and groom would drink from a cup of wine with blessing

Likewise

the cup of Jesus offered serves as the symbol of the covenant through which Christ has obtained the Church *1 Cor 11:25*

It is a marriage cup! We are betrothed to Him

6

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 2- Bethrothal/Erusin/ Kiddushin

At this point in the Jewish marriage the bride is declared to be sanctified or set apart exclusively for her groom.

Likewise

Once the marriage covenant between Christ and His bride was established, the Church has been declared to be sanctified or set apart exclusively for Christ 1Cor. 1:2; 6:11; Heb. 10:10; 13:12).

7

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 2- Bethrothal/Erusin/ Kiddushin

After the betrothal, the groom would return to his father's house and build a room onto the family home (*insula*) to prepare a new home for his wife

likewise

- Jesus left the earth, the home of the Church, and returned to His Father's house (John 6:62; 20:17).
- During this time Christ has been preparing, in union with the Father, eternal accommodations for His bride. (John 14:2).

8

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 2- Bethrothal/Erusin/ Kiddushin

This betrothal period of separation afforded the bride time to gather her bridal clothing and linens and to prepare for married life.

Likewise

The church in this time of waiting for the Lord's return the church is to continually be made ready and prepared as a pure spotless bride

Eph 5:25; 1 Cor 11:2

9

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 3 Home Taking- *Nissuin*

Father would affirm son to return to bride and with escorts bring her home 'elevated' Bride did not know of time but was to be prepared. Return announced with shout.

Likewise

Only Father knows time of return. Jesus return with escort of angels and saints and will come with a shout, Bride will be lifted up (out) . Jn 14:3; 1 Thess 4:15-17; Mk 13:32-33

10

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 3 Home Taking- *Nissuin*

Arriving at their new home the bride and groom will then share in another special time of covenant *Sheva Brachot* under the huppa and another cup of wine was shared. This is the kiddush cup of completion signifying their unity and life together

Likewise

At the time of reunion with Christ in the eternal home he has prepared for us He, with His Bride, will drink anew from the kiddush cup of completion Mt 26:29

11

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 3 Home Taking- *Nissuin*

After the ceremony under the huppa ,The bride and groom would retreat immediately to the privacy of their new quarters. The guests would wait expectantly while the groom's chief attendant stood outside the door and listened for the voice of the groom, announcing consummation of the marriage.

Likewise

- John the Baptist spoke prophetically of Jesus marriage to His bride, referred to the consummation of Christ with his church and the consummation of all things and the Joy it brings! Jn 3:29

12

Jewish Marriage & Our Marriage to Jesus

Stage 3 Home Taking- *Nissuin*

A great celebration of joy followed with all the community for 7 days, cooresponding to the 7 blessings of the *Sheva Brachot*

Likewise

The ultimate desire and longing of the believers in Christ in the wedding feast of the Lamb! Rev 19:7-9, Matt 22:1-14; Eph 5:25-32; Isaiah 25:6-9

13

A Marriage Proposal by Jesus

• *"I, Jesus, take thee, one stained by Adam's sin, guilty before God, separated from the eternal Father, to be My Bride. And I do promise and covenant before the witness of God The Father and Holy Spirit, to be thy loving and faithful Saviour and Bridegroom; who will never leave you or forsake you and be your provider, healer, redeemer and friend for time and for eternity."*

14

Our Response to Jesus Proposal

- *"I, one stained by Adam's sin, guilty before God and separated from the Father, take Thee, Jesus, to be my Saviour. And I do promise and covenant before God and these witnesses to be Thy loving and faithful Bride; By your grace upon me and in me, I give myself to you to be a member of your pure spotless bride. Wherever you go I will go and will follow you all the days of my life."*