TS 8 Song of Solomon

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GOD'S AMAZING LOVE

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION: This is a book of mystery, wonder and affection. Forbidden in the Jewish culture to be read by anyone under 18! Considered a book of the beauty of marriage love. Sex was created by God, and part of our human condition for His glory. The evident meaning this book is the pure love of a man for a woman, expressed in holiness and sanctity of committed love and marriage. This book takes us from courtship, to wedding day, to the marriage bed. Hebrews 13:4 *"Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge."* Never has there been more confusion, abuse and disinformation about sex than today. The internet has exposed adolescence to much of this at an age they are not designed to handle. Let's see what God says about this sensitive and amazing subject. I Chron. 16:29 *"Give to the Lord the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!"*

I. THE PASSION OF

A. Created to be sensual – Our body is the entrance to the mind and the soul.

1:1-3 "Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth. For your love is better than wine. Because of the fragrance of your good ointments, Your name is ointment poured forth; Therefore the virgins love you. Draw me away." The senses of touch, smell, hearing your name, the power of imagination.

B. Created to celebrate the love in others. How we love a great love story of passion and sacrifice. 1:4 *"We will run after you. The king has brought me into his chambers. We will be glad and rejoice in you. We will remember your love more than wine."*

C. Created to long to be better. Our insecurity drives us... our feeling of abuse motivates us.

1:5-6 "I am dark, but lovely, O daughters of Jerusalem, Like the tents of Kedar, Like the curtains of Solomon. Do not look upon me, because I am dark, Because the sun has tanned me. My mother's sons were angry with me; They made me the keeper of the vineyards, But my own vineyard I have not kept."

II. THE PASSION OF

A. Express your need to be noticed. She asked why she should only go to the shepherd flocks veiled? B. Express your feelings of emotion.

1. He calls her lovely and gives her directions to his flocks. Opens door of relationship.. 1:8

2. He compares her to his filly of Pharaoh's chariots. (every man ought to take riding lessons to learn how to handle a woman.)

3. He comments on her adornment. Men love to see their woman dressed and adorned beautifully.

III. THE PASSION OF _____ (Here is love in action.. If you love me, show me!)

A. Love must be expressed. The table is often referred to as a place of enjoyment and intimacy.

Jesus sets His table before us.... The bride is welcomed in heaven with a marriage feast.

- She speaks of the marriage bed.... Married couples should sleep together!

- B. Love must be enjoyed. Her attitude toward love.
- He sees through her eyes her submission and love. He loves the respect she shows. "The Look of Love" He sees her submission through her eyes.... The window of the soul!
- She understands the blessings of the marriage bed. "Our bed is green"

- She feels through his love the strength of security. "The beams of our house are cedar"

THE DELIGHT OF LOVE

Chapter 2

INTRODUCTION: Psalm 16:3 As for the saints who *are* on the earth, "They are the excellent ones, in whom is all my **delight**." One of the amazing emotions of God is His delight in the bride! It's one thing to believe that He loves us, but He "Delights" in us goes way deeper. The Song of Solomon brings the great emotions of love to the surface. The way a man and woman feel toward each other when they are "Love sick". Caught away with romance and infatuated with each other. Remember love in marriage needs to be rekindled and reignited again and again.

I. DELIGHTING IN HIS

- A. In His beauty Isa. "Your eyes will see the beauty of the King."
- B. In His blessings Provides shade and fruit

II. DELIGHTING IN HIS

- A. What He brings in my life....
 - 1. He brings me.... invitation to intimacy
 - 2. He sustains me... invitation to longevity
 - 3. He embraces me... invitation to strength and submission
 - 4. He stirs me... like a gazelle or dear (react quickly and respond carefully)
- B. What he uses to pleasure me
 - 1. Banqueting house & he waves his banner over me. Banner of LOVE!
 - 2. Brings cakes and apples "For I am lovesick" (Not sick of love)
 - 3. Embraces my whole body head to waist "right hand embraces me"
 - 4. Stirs love but under control. "Do not stir up nor awaken love until it pleases"

III. DELIGHTING IN HIS

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled.." A. His voice

1. The voice of His coming! *"Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away!"* We love the sound of His coming for us. Called by "Blessed Hope" of the church.

Matthew 24:31 "And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

2. The voice of His mystery

V - 9 "Behold, he stands behind our wall, looking through the windows, gazing through the

lattice." He shall come in the clouds.... We see through a glass darkly...then face to face.

4. The voice of His harvest - the call of the end-times on our hearts

- "The winter is past, the rain is over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth, time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land." V - 12

B. <u>His face</u> - Our face tells the story of love.

2:14 "O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, In the secret places of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely."

WARNINGS of the brothers of the Shulamite: "Catch us the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines, for our vines have tender grapes." V - 15

- 1. Life is made up of small things.... "Notice me", "Acknowledge me", "Help me", "Speak to me"
- 2. Remember the small things you did when you first fell in love.

C. <u>His movement</u> - "Be like a gazelle, or a young stag upon the mountains of Bether." V – 17

THE POWER OF LOVE

Chapter 3

INTRODUCTION: Chapter 3 expresses the strong power of love in drawing two people together. It also expresses the power of the love of the king for His bride. The law of attraction is interrupted by the absence of the king from the side of the Shulamite. Some commentators believe this was a dream she had for her lover. It definitely shows the desire of our hearts for intimacy with Jesus. We long for His presence. This chapter gives several pictures of the power of love.

I. Picture #1 FOR LOVE

A. Love's desire

- We were made to love and be loved. V – 2 "I will rise now I said, and go about the city; In the streets and in the squares I will seek the one I love."

B. Love's distance

- Love often is hard to find- V – 1 "I sought him, but I did not find him."

C. Love's direction

- Love is often discovered through our watchman. V - 3 "The watchmen who go about the city found me; I said, Have you seen the one I love?"

D. Love's diligence - "Seek and you will find"

- When you find love, cherish it. V – 4 "Scarcely had I passed by them, When I found the one I love. I held him and would not let him go, until I had brought him to the house of my mother, und into the chamber of her who conceived me."

II. Picture #2 OF LOVE

A. The Protection of love

1. The fragrance of love V - 6 "Who is this coming out of the wilderness Like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all the merchant's fragrant powders?"

2. The splendor of love's power V - 7,8 "Behold, it is Solomon's couch, With sixty valiant men around it, of the valiant of Israel. They all hold swords, being expert in war. every man has his sword on his thigh because of fear in the night."

B. The Provision of love

1. Solomon's couch V - 9,10 "Of the wood of Lebanon Solomon the King Made himself a palanguin:^{[a}He made its pillars of silver, Its support of gold, Its seat of purple."

2. Solomon's design V - 10 "Its interior paved with love by the daughters of Jerusalem."

III. Picture #3

GREAT LOVE

A. God created us with a need to be love

- Genesis 2:18 "And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

- Genesis 29:20 "So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed only a few days to him because of the love he had for her

B. God Himself made man to be loved by Him.

- 1 Corinthians 2:9 "But as it is written: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

LOVE'S CONSUMATION

Chapter 4

INTRODUCTION: We have now journeyed through the courtship of Chapters 1 – 3 and come to the beautiful wedding night. This is the honeymoon suite of the bride and the bridegroom. God is not ashamed of pure love and He created man for woman for this purpose. A wonderful picture of as God's wife and Christ and the Church are both intimated in this relationship. Even though the Song of Solomon never brings these pictures into view, we can summarize them from total scripture.

____ OF LOVE Ι. THE

A. Love spoken – The King tells her of his complete delight in her appearance

v – 1 "Behold, you are fair, my love! Behold, you are fair!" ... He later tells her she is very fair.

"You are all fair, my love, and there is no spot in you."

- What does our bridegroom say about us? Ephesians 1:4 "Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love."

- Ephesians 5:27 "That He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish."

B. Love shared – He now calls her his spouse – "You have ravished my heart, My sister, my spouse; You have ravished my heart with one look of your eyes, with one link of your necklace

The Shulamite has now moved from insecurity in Ch. 1, to confidence in Ch. 2, to commitment in Ch. 3 and now to completion in ch. 4. No more courtship, now life commitment.

II. THE OF LOVE

A. Intimacy of love – All of us desire intimacy in life. The joy of life is intimacy. Built on trust and testing love's reality, we open our hearts to one another. No more beautiful picture then Husband & Wife!

- How to build intimacy? (break down walls) Ephesians 2:14 "For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation."

- Speak truth in love Eph. 4:25 Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another."

B. Satisfaction of love - Beauty of a garden. We love gardens! "You have ravished my heart", "Better than wine". She is a garden shut up.... She kept herself for him alone. (increases the value of love) v – 12 "A garden enclosed Is my sister, my spouse, a spring shut up, a fountain sealed."

III. THE

____ OF LOVE

THE _____ OF LOVE A. Love's response. V – 16 "Awake, O north wind; and come, thou south; blow upon my garden, that the spices thereof may flow out. Let my beloved come into his garden, and eat his pleasant fruits." - We are invited into the secret place of salvation and joy with Christ.

B. Love's return. Only true love can satisfy. God is LOVE!

Psalm 36:8 "They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures." What really satisfies our life?

- Riches cannot satisfy. Ecclesiastes 5:10 "He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver; Nor he who loves abundance, with increase. This also is vanity.

- Earthly pleasure cannot satisfy. Proverbs 27:20 "Hell and Destruction are never full; So the eyes of man are never satisfied."

- Only Jesus can satisfy. Psalm 16:11 "You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of iov: At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

LOVE'S LOST INTIMACY

Chapter 5

INTRODUCTION: The beautiful story of love and intimacy is interrupted by careless complacency. The little foxes that spoil the vine are usually not big events but a growing complacency in life. John wrote the church at Laodicea "**You have left your first love**". It didn't mean they lost it, they just left it. Love's passion must be fed by attention. The bride had grown comfortable in her fancy chamber and become focused more on her need than that of satisfying the King. This complacency led to his leaving her for a time.

I. KING'S

A. God's unending invitation. The King comes calling to be with her. *He knocks, saying, "Open for me, my sister, my love, my dove, my perfect one; For my head is covered with dew, my locks with the drops of the night."* V - 1 How familiar to the invitation of Christ. *"behold I stand at the door and knock, If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me."* Revelation 3:20

B. God's undying expression Matthew 23:37 "How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"

II. BRIDE'S

A. The bride's complacency v – 3 *"I have taken off my robe; How can I put it on again? I have washed my feet; How can I defile them?"* (What words seemed to be repeated over and over?)

- B. The bride's change of heart. She finally rises to open, but her lover is gone.
- C. The bride's open danger. She moved from complacency to compassion to find him, but he was gone. The watchmen of the city abused her and took her veil (covering)
 - v 7 "The watchmen who went about the city found me. They struck me, they wounded me; The keepers of the walls Took my veil away from me."
- D. The bride's declaration Out of desperation she invites the daughters of Jerusalem to join her.
 - 1. To the daughters of Jerusalem, Help me find him
 - 2. From the daughters of Jerusalem, "What is so special about him?"

III. LOVE'S

A. She remembered His person

- She reflects on the members of his body. His head, his hair, his cheeks, his arms, his body, his legs.
 She misses his countenance. Like cedars of Lebanon. She needs his strength.
- v- 15 "His countenance is like Lebanon, Excellent as the cedars."
- B. She remembered His passion

v - 16 "His mouth is most sweet, yes, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem!"

OUR PRESENT APPLICATION:

1. Jesus has fully expressed His love and passion for us and to be with us. Ephesians 5:2 "And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma."

2. He invites us to stay focused in His love. Jude 1:21 "keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

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LOVE'S COMMITMENT

Chapters 6 - 8

INTRODUCTION: The power of true love is it's ability to endure. Paul, the apostle said in I Cor. 13, that the first characteristic of love is patience. Out of all the descriptions, Paul used the sustaining power of love more than any other. "Love is patient.... Love is longsuffering... love endures all things... love never fails" (I Cor. 13) At our wedding vows we say, "in sickness and in health, whether rich or poor, in good times and in bad times". In Chapter 6 - 8 the King affirms his love to his bride.

OF LOVE Ι.

A. She bears witness through her love. V - 1 "Where has your beloved gone, O fairest among women? Where has your beloved turned aside, that we may seek him with you?"

B. She is the desired one. 6:3 "I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine. He feeds his 7:10 "I am my beloved's, and his desire is toward me." flock among the lilies.

C. She is the chosen one. V 8 – 9 "There are sixty queens and eighty concubines, and virgins without number. My dove, my perfect one, Is the only one, The only one of her mother, the favorite of the one who bore her. The daughters saw her and called her blessed, the gueens and the concubines, and they praised her."

П.

A. He is the familiar One. She remembers the garden where she could always find him.

- 1. Jesus loved gardens. How did Judas know where Christ was? The 12 retreated often to the garden. 2. Jesus never changes... "The same vesterday, today and forever." One of the attributes of God is
- His immutability.

B. He is the everlasting One. 8:6 "Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm; for love is as strong as death, jealousy as cruel as the grave; its flames are flames of fire, almost vehement flame."

8:7 "Many waters cannot quench love, nor can the floods drown it. If a man would give for love all the wealth of his house, it would be utterly despised."

III. _____ OF LOVE'S RETREAT

A. A place of great memories. 7:13 "The mandrakes give off a fragrance, and at our gates are pleasant fruits, all manner, new and old."

B. A place of rewards. "I have laid up for you." 7:13

C. A place of peace and quietness. 8:10 "Then I became in his eyes as one who found peace."

First, we have peace with God, then we have the peace of God. We see in His eyes our peace!!

This is a key verse in the entire book. She finally finds mature love. She sees in His eyes her total love and acceptance. She is finally secure and at home with His love and presence. "The eyes of our understanding being enlightened " Ephesians 1:18

Eph. 4:13-14 "Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ"

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SPICES OF SOLOMON

9 Spices & 9 Fruit of the Spirit

INTRODUCTION: The Song of Solomon beautifully portrays the fragrances our lives put forth revealing God's Christ's character. These 9 spices of chapter 4, correspond to the 9 fruit of the Spirit of Galatians 5:22. II Corinthians 2:15 *"For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing."*

1. Love רְמֹן **rimmôn, rimmôn Pomegrantes -** To hold in high affection. Highly valued in Israel it adorned the tops of the columns of Solomon's temple. Known for beauty, the fruit contained rich sources of nutrients.

2. Joy – פֿפָר – kôpher - camphire A covering that brings me joy Song of Solomon 1:14 "My love is a cluster of henna blossoms to me, in the vineyards of Engedi."

3. Peace פֹפֶר Greek Strong's #3487 - νάρδος (nardos) Spikenard

Thayer's Definition "nard, the head or spike of a fragrant East Indian plant belonging to the genus Valerianna, which yields a juice of delicious odor which the ancients used (either pure or mixed) in the preparation of a most precious ointment. The peace of God is like an ointment upon us, giving an odor up to God of great fragrance. Mark 14:3 "*And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head."*

4. Longsuffering אַרְכָּם karkôm - Saffron – name of a flower of frangrance. Name given to a child full of strength and endurance. Very expensive as it takes over 75,000 flowers to make 1 lb. of Saffron. More valuable than gold. I Peter 1:7 *"That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ."* Speaks of the triumphant faith of the Messiah against His enemy.

5. Kindness קְנֶה **kaw-neh Calamus –** One of the top healing oils dating way back to the ancient Eqyptians. Formulas for healing oils are found on the walls of pyramids. This oil would sooth the emotions. Believed to be anointing oil for weddings and used by Jesus for healing. An essential oil.

6. Goodness קְנָמוֹן qinnâmôn - Cinnamon - Speaks of the fragrance of Christ. II Cor. 2:14-15 "Thanks be to God, who always leads us triumphant in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place."

7. Faithfulness לְבוֹנָה **lebônâh - Frankincense** Known for its preservative nature in burials, frankincense was used by the ancients in burials. It is a resins from trees and of great value. The resin of this spice is commonly found among the graves of those rich that were buried there. Pure frankincense is white in color.

8. Gentleness <u>nir</u> **lôt** - **Myrrh** Bitter, until placed in the fire, this spice was used in burial as well. Brought by the wise men, perhaps it spoke of the divine purpose for the Son of Man.. his burial and resurrection. The Hebrew word strongly suggests that when persecuted, one does not push back or retaliate. This produces the sweet fragrance before God's throne of strength and gentleness. Myrrh literally distills into tears.

9. Self-control 'ăhâlîym a-haw-leem'- Aloes

John 19:39 "And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound [weight]"

DANCE OF DIVINE LOVE

Overview Song of Solomon

INTRODUCTION: This "Dance of Divine Love" is the story of God's romance and exhibition of His love for the Trinity, for mankind, and for man and for woman. It is the story that binds all stories of the Bible to the passions, emotions, and divine romance that pictures God's love.

I. THE CHARACTERS

- A. King Solomon The Divine pursuit
- B. Shulamite girl The Divine purpose of the Father for the Son
- C. Daughters of Jerusalem -
- B. Brothers, Watchman and keepers of the gate.

II. THE PLOT

- A. Love's Passion
- B. Love's Separation
- C. Love Reunion
- D. Love's completion

III. THE MESSAGE

- A. God's nature to love
- B. God's gift to man
- C. God's great eternal plan

Ancient Jewi	sh Custom	Parallel to the Church
1. Shiddukhin The Match	 Initiated by the father of the groom Agent may be used Choice of groom considered Consent of the bride 	 Christ acted at the initiative of the Father, John 5:30 Holy Spirit acts as agent of Father in the world today, 1 Cor. 2:10; Gal. 4:6. Christ chose His disciples, John 15:16 We respond to Christ's love and accept Him, 1 Pet. 1:8

		Our mohar was the life of the Son
2. Mohar The Bride Price	 Required by law Paid by the father of the groom Reflects the value of the bride 	 The price was required by the Law, Rom. 8:3,4 The mohar was paid, as required, l Cor. 6:20, 1 Pet 1:18 The value placed on the bride was high, John 3:1
3. Mattan <i>Love Gifts</i>	Given by the groom to the bride. Not required, an expression of love.	 Believers are given gifts by the Lord out of love: Eternal Life, John 10:22-28. Anything, John 14:13-14 Peace, John 14:27
4. Shiluhim <i>Dowry</i>	Given to the bride by her father to equip her for her new life, part of her inheritance.	 Believers are given gifts by the Father to equip them for their new life: The Holy Spirit, John 14:16, 17 Spritual Gifts, 2 Cor. 1:21-22
5. Ketubah The Marriage Contract	Written document stating the mohar, the Rights of the bride, the promises of the groom.	Our written contract stating the mohar, the rights of the Bride, and the promises of the Groom is the New Testament, • 2 Cor. 3:5-6 • Heb. 8:6
6. Kiddushin The Betrothal	Sealed with the 'cup of acceptance' Groom: Preparation of huppah Bride: • Purificatlon (Mikveh) • Anticipation	 Cup of the New Covenant, Matt. 26:27-29 Chrlst goes to prepare a place for us, John 14:1-3 We are 'set apart', 2 Cor. 11:2, 1 Pet 15:1 Purified by 'washing,' l Cor. 6:11 We anticipate Christ's return, Matt. 24:42-44

		Only the Father knows when the Son will return, Matt. 13:32
	Groom's father decides when he may return for the bride.	We do not know when He will return Mark 1 3:32
7.	Arrival unexpected by the bride	We will be 'abducted,' I Thess. 4:16-18, Luke 17:34-36
Nissuin The Nuptials	Abductlon of the bride. Finely dressed and crowned.	We will be crowned, l Pet 5:4, James 1:12. 2 Tim. 4:8
	Marriage Feast	He will be crowned, Rev. 14:14
	Bride and Groom dwell together in happiness	We will take part in the marriage feast of the Lamb, Rev. 19:6-9
		We will dwell forever with the Groom in happiness, I Thess. 4 :17, Rev. 2 1:3.

SCRIPTURES FOR JEWISH WEDDING

John 5:30 I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me

1 Corinthians 2:10 But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God

John 15:15 No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you

<u>1 Peter 2:9</u> But you *are* a **chosen generation**, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

1 Peter 1:8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him,* yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory

Romans 8:3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh

1 Corinthians 6:20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body^[a] and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

MATTAN - LOVE GIFTS - GIVEN BY THE GROOM

John 10:27-28 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

John 14:13-14 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.

SHILUHIM – DOWRY – GIVEN BY THE FATHER FOR HER NEW LIFE – HER INHERITANCE

Eph. 1:13 You were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who^[b] is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 4:8 "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.

KETUVAH – THE MARRIAGE CONTRACT – stating rights of the bride, promises of the groom (New Covenant)

Hebrews 8:6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises

KIDDUSHIN – SEALED WITH CUP OF ACCEPTANCE. GROOM PREPARES HUPPAH Matthew 26:27 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. For this is My blood of the new^[a] covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

John 14:2 I go to prepare a place for you.^{[b] 3} And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also.

MIKVAH – PURIFICATION OF BRIDE - 1 Corinthians 6:11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

NISSUIN – FATHER DECIDES WHEN THE SON WILL GO TO FETCH THE BRIDE <u>Matthew 24:36</u> "But **of** that **day** and **hour** no one knows, not even the angels **of** heaven, but My Father only

ABDUCTION OF THE BRIDE - 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore comfort one another with these words.

FINELY DRESSED AND CROWNED - 1 Peter 5:4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away

MARRIAGE FEAST – Revelation 19:7-9 Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

ETERNAL HOME - 1 Thessalonians 4:17 Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.