

The Main Point: Be Ready! Jesus (the _____) is coming back for the church (His _____)

Three Rapture Images from an Ancient Jewish Wedding

1. The _____

A _____ is weighed

A _____ is paid--“the bride price”

A _____ is made

*Jesus wants me to know I am chosen, redeemed and worthy of His _____

2. The _____

The Groom prepares for a _____

The Bride prepares for a _____

The Father sets the _____

*Jesus wants me to be _____ and _____ for His return

3. The _____

The groom arrives suddenly with a _____ and a blast

The bride is lifted and _____ away (flying the bride)

The marriage is _____ with uninterrupted union and celebration

*Jesus wants me to live _____ for His return inviting others to the party

3 Questions to Consider:

1. Are you ready to meet the groom today? Why?/Why not?

2. What do you need to do now to be ready?

3. If you are ready, who do you still need to invite to the party?

Life Group Ice Breaker

1. Do you think weddings are fun/boring/exciting/overdone? Why?

Discussion Questions

2. What's one thing about the message that really stood out to you? Why did that grab your attention?
3. When you picture Jesus as the Groom and the Church as His Bride, what do those images bring to mind?
4. Read Matthew 25:1-13. What is Jesus trying to communicate in this parable?
5. Read Matthew 22:1-14. What is Jesus trying to communicate to us about the "wedding banquet" and "wedding clothes"?

Application Questions & Prayer

6. How does knowing that you were "chosen" and "bought with a price" impact how you live your life? What about these concepts do you struggle to understand or experience?
7. What do you see in your life that needs to be changed or adjusted as you prepare for the "wedding day"?

8. Pray that God would send revival to our church, city, state, country and world. Ask Him to equip and inspire believers everywhere to share their faith.

Links to Scripture References and Additional Study

Scripture references for the rapture: https://www.openbible.info/topics/the_rapture

Rapture vs 2nd Coming Chart: <https://gatewaybible.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Rapture-vs-2nd-Coming.pdf>

Millennial/Tribulation Views Chart: https://gatewaybible.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Millennial_views.jpg

Historical List of End Times Predictions: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_dates_predicted_for_apocalyptic_events

Precept Ministries International, Inductive Bible Study on The Second Coming of Christ:

https://www.preceptaustin.org/the_second_coming_of_Christ

David Jeremiah, Living in the Age of Signs: <https://www.davidjeremiah.org/age-of-signs/rapture>

YouVersion Bible App Reading Plan, End Times: go2.lc/theendplan

Jewish Wedding Customs: http://www.biblestudymanuals.net/jewish_marriage_customs.htm

Jewish Wedding Analogy: <https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/revelation/related-topics/the-jewish-wedding-analogy.html>

Documentary Movie: Before the Wrath, Amazon Prime <https://www.amazon.com/Before-Wrath-Kevin-Sorbo/dp/B08639CHSR>