Munfordville Church of Christ No 1216 May 20, 2018

I Peter 2:9, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

If you only casually glanced at the news in the past week, then you know there was a royal wedding in England. There is another royal wedding that is infinitely superior to the one yesterday covered by the news. This royal wedding is our wedding to Christ—the Lamb.

Peter wrote in the above verse that we are a "royal priesthood." Not only is every child of God a priest unto God, but we are royal. This is the only verse in the New Testament where this Greek word for royal appears. It's the same base Greek word for "king."

We become royal when we obey the LORD. Not only are we royal, but we are married to royalty. Though the Bible never calls the church the bride of Christ, there are passages that show that relationship to Christ is as of a bride to her husband.

II Corinthians 11:2 says, ". . . for I have espoused you to one

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ." The word espoused means to give one in marriage.

In Romans 7:4, in talking about no longer following the old law, Paul wrote, "Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God." We are to be married to Him who is raised from the dead. This is referring to Christ.

Though the term "bride of Christ" is not in the Bible, the Lamb's wife is talked about. Revelation 19:7, "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." The Lamb of God, is Christ. John called Jesus the Lamb of God twice in John 1 (vs. 29 and 36). The many passages in Revelation that talk about the Lamb can only be referring to Jesus.

In Revelation 21:9-10, John is told, "... I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. ¹⁰And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God." The Lamb, who is Jesus, is indeed married. The saved, who are the church, is the Lamb's wife.

The Lamb is called in Revelation 17:14, "King of kings." In Revelation 19:16 we are told, "And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." We are royal, and Jesus is royal for He is "King of kings." There is a much more important royal wedding happening right now— our marriage to Jesus, the Lamb of God.

—Marty Edwards❖ ★★★

—Continue to remember Jean Coffey, Alice Thrasher, Steve



Seaton, Brad Terry and Shirley Parson.

—We extend our sympathies to the family of **Buddy Worth** who passed away Friday. He is the father of David Worth and father-in-law of Denessa Terry.

Proverbs 26:4, "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him. Proverbs 26:5, "Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit."

The two above verses in Proverbs tell us to do two things that are the exact opposite. Obviously, there are times when we need to answer, and times when we don't need to answer.

I think we all at times have trouble with feeling like we must answer someone when they ask us something. I think the first verse is letting us know there are times when we should not answer, because we will become like the one asking us something. Often people will ask something in a contentious manner not really wanting an answer. They just want to challenge what the Bible says and are more interested in trying to draw us into an argumentative conversation. It's fine to simply not answer. In John 19:9 of Pilate we are told, "and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer." There are probably many reasons Jesus did not answer. It was of no benefit to tell where he was from. But, like Jesus, we don't always need to answer.

In the very next verse Pilate asked Jesus about not answering him. He told Jesus he had the power to release him. Jesus then did answer. John 19:11, "Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin."

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Sunday, May 13, 2018		
Classes	19	II Timothy 4:9-22
Preaching	24	Luke 2:39-52
Contribution	\$941.00	
Evening	20	Zephaniah 3:1-20
Wednesday, May 16, 2018		
Classes	14	Revelation 17:1-18

Bible Quiz

The Lamb is Lord and King of what?

Last Week's Answer—Into the air (Revelation 16:7)

Like the second verse above in Proverbs, this time Jesus did answer. He convicted both Pilate and the one above him of their sins. Pilate was in folly and conceit, and Jesus did as the Proverb says, and answered Him.

Pray for wisdom when talking to someone about the Bible. There are those who just want to argue meaningless questions, such as where Cain got his wife. These don't deserve our answering. There is no answer to even give. Others are truly confused and lost, and we should answer to help guide them to eternal salvation.

—Marty Edwards❖

-God's Plan of Salvation-

- 1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
- 2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
- 3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
- 4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
- 5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
- 6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)