



ROYAL BRIDE

Liz Dickson



Love UnVeiled[®]
Transforming Women into God's Image of Beauty

“Thou hast formed us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in Thee” Augustine

For Your Maker is Your Husband **Isaiah 54:5**

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!” **Revelation 19:7-9**

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. **Isaiah 61:10**

You shall also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; But you shall be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; For the LORD delights in you... and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you. **Isaiah 62:3-5**

I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me In righteousness and justice, in lovingkindness and mercy; I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, and you shall know the LORD.
Hosea 2:19-20

You are beautiful my love.” **Song of Songs 1:15**

Let me see your face, let me hear your voice, for your voice is sweet and your face is lovely.” **Song of Solomon 2: 14**

I have found the one whom my soul loves
Song of Solomon 3:4

~ WHO IS THE BRIDEGROOM? ~

He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. **He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him.** He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces He was despised, and we held Him in low esteem.
Isaiah 53:2-3 NIV

Surely, He took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered Him punished by God, stricken by Him, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him...**Isaiah 53:4-5 NIV**

Like the tabernacle in the wilderness – there was no outward beauty in Jesus' physical appearance. His beauty is hidden from those who don't know Him intimately. You need revelation of who He is to see Him in His full glory!

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You love righteousness and hate wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions. All Your garments are scented with myrrh and aloes and cassia, out of the ivory palaces, by which they have made You glad.

Kings' daughters are among Your honorable women; At Your right hand stands the queen in gold from Ophir. Listen, O daughter, Consider and incline your ear;

Forget your own people also, and your father's house; So, the King will greatly desire your beauty; Because He is your Lord, worship Him. And the daughter of Tyre will come with a gift; The rich among the people will seek your favor. **The royal daughter is all glorious within the palace;** Her clothing is woven with gold. She shall be brought to the King in robes of many colors; The virgins, her companions who follow her, shall be brought to You. With gladness and rejoicing they shall be brought; They shall enter the King's palace." **Psalm 45:6-17**

"We were eyewitnesses of His majesty" 2 Peter 1:16

~ JESUS OUR BRIDEGROOM ~

We love Him because He first loved us. (1 John 4:19)

Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God. **Romans 7:4**

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is in you*, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. **1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present *you as a chaste virgin* to Christ. But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. **2 Corinthians 11:2-3**

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word 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. **Ephesians 5:25-27**

So, husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. “For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. **Ephesians 5:28-31**

~ ANCIENT JEWISH WEDDING TRADITIONS ~

SHIDDUKIN - THE MATCH: Was arranged by the parents. Usually, the father of the groom was the initiator. The groom's choice was considered. An agent could be used. The bride had authority to accept or reject the proposal. **Genesis 24:2-5, 58, John 5:30, John 15:16, 1 Corinthians 2:10, 1 Peter 1:12, 1 Peter 1:8, 1 John 1:19**

MOHAR - A BRIDE PRICE. Had to be paid by the groom's father. This was a requirement by law. The price reflected the bride's value. **John 3:16, Romans 8:3-4, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 1 Peter 1:18-19**

MATTAN - LOVE GIFTS. Not required, but given as expressions of love from the groom to the bride. **John 10:27-28, 14:13-14, 27**

SHILUHIM - DOWRY GIFTS. Given to the bride by her father to equip her for her new life, part of her inheritance. **Genesis 24:22, 53, John 14:16-17, 1 Corinthians 12:1,4**

KETUBAH - MARRIAGE CONTRACT. A written document stating the bride price, the rights of the bride and the promises of the groom. In the Old Testament, the Mosaic Covenant (Exodus 19:5) was the contract between God and Israel His bride. In the New Testament, the New Covenant is the contract alluded to between Christ and His bride, the church. **Jeremiah 31:31-33, 2 Corinthians 3:5-6, Hebrews 8:6**

KIDDUSHIN - THE BETROTHAL When the arrangement was agreed between the fathers, the bridegroom would offer the bride a **"Cup of Acceptance"**, to propose a covenant between them. This was offered as a cup of wine. He would drink from it, then offer it to her. If she drank from it, she was accepting to enter a covenant of marriage with him. **Matthew 26:27-28, 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, Ephesians 1:13-14**

The covenant took place at that moment of acceptance. It was a legally binding agreement. They were considered married although the marriage was not yet consummated. The woman was now betrothed to the bridegroom, by covenant, he was legally her husband, but they are not living together.

THE HUPPAH - The bridegroom would leave for at least 9 months, or longer returning to his father's house to build a room, for his bride. Traditionally the **huppah**, a tent or room belonging to the groom, was a symbol of authority and protection for his bride. **Isaiah 4:5, Psalm 19:4, John 14:1-3**

The 9 months or more waiting was time to fully prove the bride's chastity and to prepare her for life with her bridegroom – it was a time of purification, undistracted devotion, and anticipation. The bride wore a veil whenever she stepped out of her house to indicate she was no longer available to others. She was set apart, consecrated to her bridegroom. **Genesis 24:65, 2 Corinthians 11:2, 1 Corinthians 6:11, 1 Peter 1:15-16, 1 John 2:15**

NISSUIN – THE NUPTIALS The bride doesn't know when the groom will come back. It is a test of her heart and faithfulness to wait in a state of readiness and anticipation. She must be prepared and watchful. The groom also doesn't know when he will return. A young groom anxious to have his bride, may not fully complete the house. Only the father, in wisdom, knows when the room is ready and will tell the son when to go and get his bride. **2 Peter 3:9, Matthew 25:13**

But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch, and pray; for you do not know when the time is. **Mark 13:32**

The bride had to be ready, every day. She may even begin sleeping in her wedding gown. **Matthew 25:1-13**

The bridegroom would often come in the night to “steal” the bride away as a surprise, a part of the romance. He would come often blowing the shofar to warn the bride and the bridal party that he was coming.

When the groom's party arrived, they would lift the bride up onto a litter and she would “fly” back to the bridegroom's home for the wedding feast. If you didn't make it into the wedding feast, the door was shut. No one else was allowed in. After the marriage feast, the bride and groom consummated the marriage, and lived together in happiness. **Song of Solomon 3:7-10**

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. 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. **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. **1 Thessalonians 5:2**

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night...**2 Peter 3:10**

Behold He is coming with clouds and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. **Revelation 1:7**

~ A COVENANT OF LOVE, PEACE & PROTECTION ~

Covenant - I have bound myself to you forever.

I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me In righteousness and justice, in lovingkindness and mercy; I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, and you shall know the Lord. **Hosea 2:19-20**

For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, But My kindness shall not depart from you, nor shall My covenant of peace be removed,” says the LORD, who has mercy on you. **Isaiah 54:10**

Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah ... I will put My law in their minds and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. **Jeremiah 31:31-33**

And He took bread, gave thanks, and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them, saying, “*This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.*” Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, “*This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.*” **Luke 22:19-20**

For this reason, I also suffer these things; nevertheless, I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that **He is able to keep** what I have committed to Him until that Day. **2 Timothy 1:12**

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:38-9**

For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. **Ephesians 5: 29**

Then the LORD will create above every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and the shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory there will be a covering (*huppah*).

Isaiah 4:5

~ THE BRIDE IN WAITING ~

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. **Revelation 19:7-8**

-How do we live, wait and be ready?

Matthew 25:1-13, John 3:5, 4:24-25 - Saved and filled by His Spirit & truth

Luke 7:37-50 – Overflowing affection, for what He has done for us.

“It’s not enough to say He has won your heart, or that you have given Him your heart, but does He satisfy your heart; is He your every longing?” (David Wilkerson)

*“Can the friends of the bridegroom mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them and then they will fast.” **Matthew 9:15***

-Fasting - Looking and Longing for Him.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I do hope. My soul waits for the Lord More than those who watch for the morning... **Psalm 130:5-6**

How lovely Is your dwelling place O Lord of hosts! my soul longs, even faints for the courts of the Lord, My heart, and my flesh cry out for the living God. **Psalm 84:1**

-Righteous Acts - Loving Him, loving each other, loving, serving others.

And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

Mark 12:30-31

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

We make it our aim to be well pleasing to Him. 2 Corinthians 5:9

For the love of Christ compels us because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

... love one another as I have loved you... By this all will know you are My disciples... **John 13:34-35**

And above all, have fervent love for one another **1 Peter 4:8**

You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden...Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **Matthew 5:14,16**

She girds herself with strength and strengthens her arms. She perceives that her merchandise is good, and her lamp does not go out by night.

Proverbs 31:17-18

Strength and honor are her clothing; She shall rejoice in time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness.

Proverbs 31:25

And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, as much as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.

Matthew 25:40

Therefore, we do not lose heart. Even though our outer man is perishing yet the inward man is being renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

-Deliver Wedding Invitations - Matthew 22:1-14

The Spirit and the bride say “Come!” Revelation 22:17

Discussion Questions and Reflection

Session 1

- Read the *Letter to the Kings Daughter*. Which part of the letter is meaningful to you? Which part do you struggle to believe for you?

Session 2

- Have you ever asked yourself what you honestly think, deep in your heart about God; whether you believe Him to be a good or a bad God?
- How does human experience, or expectation of marriage, impact your perspective about God's perspective about marriage?
- How does this teaching on being the *Royal Bride* change your perspective: on how you see 1) yourself; and 2) your purpose?

Session 3

- What has been the most impactful teaching for you today?
- How will this teaching impact your relationship with God when you leave today?

Reflection

- Have you been, or are you currently afraid of intimacy with God? Why?
- Do you have any hidden doubts, unbelief, or fear caused by wounding, rejection, abuse, or abandonment in the past, which make it difficult for you to see yourself as part of the Royal Bride, chosen by God?

Teaching videos to accompany this lesson are available on Love UnVeiled [YouTube Channel at Let's Get Real](#). For more information about Love UnVeiled (LUV) weekly groups, workshops and other teaching and ministry visit www.loveunveiled.org or contact info@loveunveiled.org

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