

Session 1

Our Heavenly Matchmaker

By Miriam Nadler

Chosen by God to be His own possession:

- **The Jewish people-** Deuteronomy 7: 6 - For you are a holy people to the LORD your God; the LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. 7 “The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples, 8 but because the LORD loved you and kept the oath which He swore to your forefathers.
- **You and me-** 1 Peter 2: 9 - But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”

Chosen by God in order to bless you:

Ephesians 1:3-4 - Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus the Messiah, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Messiah, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus the Messiah to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.

The first step in the Jewish wedding is the arrangement:

1. Scriptural example: Abraham’s chief servant finding Rebekah for Isaac- Genesis 24:1-4

2. Our Heavenly Father paid the bride price in Messiah’s blood

Ephesians 5:25-27 and 32 - 25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Messiah also loved the church and gave Himself up for her; 26 that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the congregation in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless. 32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

3. The Covenant of Marriage, the Ketubah is established by the Groom:

Luke 22:20 - *And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.*

Colossians 2:10 - *and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority.*

Being Betrothed to Jesus our Groom

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The Second Phase in the Jewish Wedding is Betrothal also called the period of Sanctification

- This time of betrothal is an absolute covenant commitment to marriage. In the Scriptures a betrothal was seen as being as binding as the wedding vows themselves and could only be broken by a divorce. Deuteronomy 22:22-24
- Example of Joseph and Mary - Matthew 1:18-19

How are you building your Trousseau or Hope Chest?

Revelation 19:8, "And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints."

- *Saved by grace but created for good works-* Ephesians 2: 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of works, that no one should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Messiah Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.
- *Your motives will be revealed-* 1 Corinthians 3: 10 According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building upon it. But let each man be careful how he builds upon it. 11 For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus the Messiah. 12 Now if any man builds upon the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each man's work will become evident; for the day will show it, because it is to be revealed with fire; and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work. 14 If any man's work which he has built upon it remains, he shall receive a reward.

Messiah desires you to be His pure virgin

- *Continual Cleansing needed-* 2 Corinthians 11: 2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, that to Messiah I might