

SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #5

CHRIST COMING TO HIS TEMPLE

PART 2.

INTRODUCTION

All italics are in the original text. All other emphases are the authors unless noted. All Scriptures are from the K.J.V. Bible unless stated otherwise.

In many parts of the East, wedding festivities are held in the evening. The bridegroom goes forth to receive his bride from her father's house and brings her to his own. By torchlight the bridal party proceed from her father's home. A feast is provided for the invited guest. In the scene upon which Christ looks, a company are awaiting the appearance of the bridal party intending to join the procession.

COL (Christ's object lessons). 405:2. "Linger near the bride's house are ten young women robed in white. Each carries a lighted lamp and a small flagon for oil. All are anxiously watching for the appearance of the bridegroom. But there is a delay. Hour after hour passes; the watchers become weary and fall asleep. At midnight the cry is heard, "Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him." The sleepers, suddenly awaking, spring to their feet. They see the procession moving on, bright with torches and glad with music. **They hear the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride.**" {COL 405.2}

Let us pray:

Holy Father, I ask for the outpouring of Your holy spirit upon all Your children. May understanding, and wisdom be given to each one. Forgive our sins and cleans our hearts that we might be worthy. I ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son. Amen.

Revelation 21:9, 10. "And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, **Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife**. And 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,**"

NOTE: The city of New Jerusalem is said to be the bride. John also declares that the overcomer is also called the New Jerusalem!

Revelation 3:12, 13. "**Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. **He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.**"**

NOTE: Those who overcome will not only sit with Christ in the Father's throne, but will

SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #5

also be His bride, the lamb's wife. Remember, Jerusalem is said to be the "Bride of Christ"!

1st 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 marvelous light."

NOTE: This is the reward of the church of Philadelphia, the church at the time of 1844, but notice the promises are to him that overcometh meaning all who overcome will receive the promise. First, he will be "**a pillar in the temple**," and will "go no more out," Christ will write upon him "the name of My God," and **the name of "the city of My God, New Jerusalem"** which cometh down out of heaven from My God: and I will write upon him My new name." Thus, those who overcome all sin are given the name **New Jerusalem** and are the bride of Christ! I am sure you have heard the expression, "he is a pillar in the community." The overcomers are pillars in the community of heaven; they enjoy many benefits, one of which is being the Bride of Christ! Notice what the messenger declares about them.

EW 15:1. "The 144,000 were all sealed and perfectly united. On their foreheads was written, God, New Jerusalem, and a glorious star containing Jesus' new name. (See also 1T 59:1, 2.

NOTE: In the paragraph just before, this group are said to be, "The living saints,

144,000 in number," It is these overcomers that are called the New Jerusalem. This means that they are a part of the last generation and are alive when Jesus comes, these are the true overcomers, no one else has ever overcome that they should receive the declaration; "without fault before the throne of God," they are the Bride, the lamb's wife!

This number is literal because E.G. White says "**144,000 in number**". Also, in Revelation 7 the 144,000 is mentioned and then verified by 12,000 being selected from each tribe of Israel. Therefore, this number cannot be symbolic! I know of no place in scripture where a number is used symbolically to represent a different number than that mentioned. If you know of any such instance, please share it with me. The number remains the same although the definition concerning that number might differ.

Prophets and Kings 591:1. "As the people of God afflict their souls before Him, pleading for purity of heart, the command is given, 'Take away the filthy garments,' and the encouraging words are spoken, 'Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment.' Zechariah 3:4. The spotless robe of Christ's righteousness is placed upon the tried, tempted, **faithful children of God. The despised remnant are clothed in glorious apparel, nevermore to be defiled by the corruptions of the world. Their names are retained in the Lamb's book of life**, enrolled among the faithful of all ages. They have resisted the wiles of the deceiver; **they have**

SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #5

not been turned from their loyalty by the dragon's roar. Now they are eternally secure from the tempter's devices. Their sins are transferred to the originator of sin. A "fair miter" is set upon their heads." {PK 591.1}.

NOTE: That glorious robe of light that was lost in the Garden of Eden is finally restored to man. Glorious thought, wonderful reality, communion with God is again ours to enjoy for we are one with God! Let us continue in Prophets and Kings Paragraph 2.

"They sing the new song before the throne, **that song which no man can learn save the hundred and forty and four thousand which were redeemed from the earth.** 'These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. **These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb.** And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.'" Revelation 14:4, 5.

"Now is reached the complete fulfillment of the words of the Angel: 'Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth My Servant the Branch.' Zechariah 3:8. Christ is revealed as the Redeemer and Deliverer of His people. **Now indeed are the remnant 'men wondered at,'** as the tears and humiliation of their pilgrimage give place to joy and honor in the presence of God and the Lamb."

NOTE: "First fruits". What is meant by this statement? In Palestine, during the Passover Feast, the participants were required to bring from the fields a portion of the early ripened grain. As it always happens when grain ripens there are spots where some of the grain ripens before the rest. These spots are called the first fruits. Some of this early ripen grain was gathered and brought to the temple and given to the priest as the first fruits of the harvest. This grain was then presented to the Lord as a wave offering or wave sheaf. It represented the harvest that was to come. By dedicating the wave offering the Lord guaranteed the rest to ripen for the harvest.

Were the first fruits the whole harvest? **NO!** It is not the whole harvest, but the first ripened grain. We are told in Revelation 14:4 that the 144,000 are **first fruits**. How can this represent all the living saved at the second coming? No, they are the first to gain the victory over all sin, they are those who most closely resemble the pattern, Jesus Christ.

As those raised when Christ came from the grave, at His resurrection, are the first fruits of the dead, so these are the first fruits of the living who perfect the character of Jesus. It is therefore evident that the 144,000 are not the whole harvest of the living saved at His coming.

EW 251:1. "Jesus sent His angels to direct the minds of the disappointed ones to the most holy place, where He had gone to cleanse the sanctuary and make a special atonement for Israel. Jesus told the angels

SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #5

that all who found Him would understand the work which He was to perform. I saw that while Jesus was in the most holy place He would be married to the New Jerusalem (the 144,000); and after His work should be accomplished in the holiest, He would descend to the earth in kingly power and take to Himself the precious ones who had patiently waited His return.” {EW 251.1}.

NOTE: This is speaking about the bride whose voice was heard in the parable of the ten virgins depicted in **Christ Object Lessons 405:2**.

WHO IS THE BRIDE WHOSE VOICE AWOKED THE SLEEPING VIRGINS IN MATTHEW 25:1-13?

“They hear the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride.” It is the 144,000 that are the Lambs wife. Who is it that hear the Bride’s voice? It is the virgins with the lamps and which were sleeping! This shows the two great divisions of God’s people, they are the Bride, the Lambs Wife, and the guests at the wedding!

Revelation 19:9. “And he saith unto me, Write, **Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb**. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.”

GC 426:2. “In the Revelation the **people of God are said to be the guests at the marriage supper**. Revelation 19:9. **If guests, they cannot be represented also as the bride.**”

NOTE: “If guest, they cannot be represented also as the bride.” They which are called, “go ye out to meet Him” and “they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb” are represented as guest at the wedding.

Two different groups of God’s people are identified by what we have just studied, first is the Bride, and second are the guest at the wedding. The marriage of Christ to His Bride takes place before Jesus leaves the most holy place. What an amazing revelation, it is said that in marriage they twain shall be one flesh. That is awesome and overwhelming. To be one with Christ just as Christ is one with His Father.

John 14:20. At that day ye shall know that **I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.**”

John 17:20. “That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.”

NOTE: What infatuation does sin have over us to make us sacrifice such an awesome position? This is our birthright from God. How can I express words to convey this overwhelming and wonderful reality! Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace good will to man. What terrible hold sin has upon man to make the lost give up such a blessed hope as this, to be the bride, the Lambs wife! Glory. Amen.

SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #5

COL (Christ's Object Lessons) 405:2. "At midnight the cry is heard, '**Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.**' The sleepers, suddenly awaking, spring to their feet. They see the procession moving on, bright with torches and glad with music. They hear the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride."

NOTE: If the virgins hear the voice of the bride along with that of the bridegroom, then the bride must be awake while the virgins were asleep. This presupposes two different groups being saved. The bride and the guest at the wedding. Let's continue in Christ's Object Lesson:

"The ten maidens seize their lamps and begin to trim them, in haste to go forth. But five have neglected to fill their flasks with oil. They did not anticipate so long a delay, and they have not prepared for the emergency. In distress they appeal to their wiser companions saying, 'Give us of your oil; for our lamps are going out.' (Margin.) But the waiting five, with their freshly trimmed lamps, have emptied their flagons. They have no oil to spare, and they answer. 'Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.' {COL 405.2}.

"He told His disciples the story of the ten virgins, by their experience illustrating the experience of the church that shall live just before His second coming. {COL 406.2}.

"The two classes of watchers (the sleepers) represent the two classes who profess to be waiting for their Lord. They are called virgins because they profess a pure faith. By the lamps is represented the word of God. The psalmist says, 'Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.'" {COL 406:3}.

TMK (That I May Know Him) 350:2, 3. "**Let none follow the example of the foolish virgins and think that it will be safe to wait until the crisis comes before gaining a preparation of character to stand in that time. It will be too late to seek for the righteousness of Christ when the guests are called in and examined.**

NOTE; To believe that God will cleanse us from sin in the final act of the atonement is error. That work must already have been accomplished through much agonizing perseverance with God. It will be too late in the final judgment or atonement to expect cleansing from sin at that time. Only the records of sin and its memory will be cleansed or blotted out at that time. Let's continue in TMK:

Now is the time to put on the righteousness of Christ—the wedding garment that will fit you to enter into the marriage supper of the Lamb. In the parable, the foolish virgins are represented as begging for oil and failing to receive it at their request. **This is symbolic of those who have not prepared themselves by developing a character to stand in a time of crisis.** It is as if they should go to their neighbors and say, Give me your character or

SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #5

I shall be lost. Those that were wise could not impart their oil to the flickering lamps of the foolish virgins. **Character is not transferable. It is not to be bought or sold; it is to be acquired.** The Lord has given to every individual an opportunity to obtain a righteous character . . . , **but He has not provided a way by which one human agent may impart to another the character which he has developed. . . .** {TMK 350.2}.

“The day is coming, and it is close upon us, when every phase of character will be revealed by special temptation. Those who remain true to principle, who exercise faith to the end, will be those who have proved true under test and trial during the previous hours of their probation, and have formed characters after the likeness of Christ. It will be those who have cultivated close acquaintance with Christ who, through His wisdom and grace, are partakers of the divine nature. But no human being can give to another, heart devotion and noble qualities of mind, and supply his deficiencies with moral power.” {TMK 350.3}.

NOTE: It is obvious, that extra oil is a character like Christ’s, and is manifested in obedience to all of God’s laws and statutes! This law is the character of God and this character must be realized now before the final crisis comes to be counted as oil in the lamps! **Reader, please understand, we have no time to dally! It is a serious time in which we live.** Christ’s coming is emanate, don’t put victory off longer, **surrender to Christ**

now! Plead with Jesus for the preparation needed now to stand later with the oil.

COL 408:1 “From the two olive trees the golden oil was emptied through the golden pipes into the bowl of the candlestick, and thence into the golden lamps that gave light to the sanctuary. So, from the holy ones that stand in God's presence His Spirit is imparted to the **human instrumentalities** who are consecrated to His service.”

NOTE: The Lord here uses the sanctuary as a visual aid to demonstrate exactly what happens in the soul temple or sanctuary. So, every facet of the sanctuary service is of vital importance for understanding our salvation! Let’s continue in Christ’s Object Lessons:

“The mission of the two anointed ones is to communicate to God's people that heavenly grace which alone can make His word a lamp to the feet and a light to the path. ‘Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.’” Zechariah 4:6. {COL 408.1}.

COL 411:1. “The class represented by the foolish virgins are not hypocrites. They have a regard for the truth, they have advocated the truth, they are attracted to those who believe the truth; **but they have not yielded themselves to the Holy Spirit's working.** They have not fallen upon the Rock, Christ Jesus, and permitted their old nature to be broken up. **This class are represented also by the stony-ground hearers. They receive the**

SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #5

word with readiness, but they fail of assimilating its principles. Its influence is not abiding. The Spirit works upon man's heart, according to his (mans) desire and consent implanting in him a new nature; but the class represented by the foolish virgins have been content with a superficial work. **They do not know God. They have not studied His character; they have not held communion with Him; therefore, they do not know how to trust, how to look and live.** Their service to God degenerates into a form. 'They come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as My people, and they hear thy words, **but they will not do them; for with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness.**' Ezekiel 33:31. The apostle Paul points out that this will be the special characteristic of those who live just before Christ's second coming. He says, 'In the last days perilous times shall come: for men shall be lovers of their own selves; . . . lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; **having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof.**' 2 Timothy 3:1-5. {COL 411.1}.

NOTE: We have many excuses such as, you cannot overcome all sin, it is impossible to be perfect, Jesus will make me perfect when He comes, it is just a little sin, when the latter rain is poured out then the holy spirit will cleans me of all sin. This and other like excuses are useless and will end in our being lost eternally. By the time the latter rain falls it will be too late for cleansing because the latter rain is to convince the non-Christian

world of righteousness. The truth is we love our pet sins more than we love the Lord Jesus! Lord help us to hate all sin!

COL 412:1 "The great final test comes at the close of human probation, when it will be too late for the soul's need to be supplied. {COL 412.1}.

RC (Reflecting Christ) 211:3. "The light of His glory--His character--is to shine forth in His followers. Thus, they are to glorify God, to **lighten the path to the Bridegroom's home**, to the city of God, to the **marriage supper of the Lamb.** {RC 211.3}.

NOTE: Compare the word glory in John 17:22 with glory in Exodus 34:6, 7. this revealing of God's glory are the character traits of God Himself and reflect His law. This glory (His law) is to be revealed in each overcomer.

COL 415:3. "It (God's character) has been misunderstood and misinterpreted. **At this time a message from God is to be proclaimed, a message illuminating in its influence and saving in its power. His character is to be made known.** Into the darkness of the world is to be shed the light of His **glory (character)**, the light of His goodness, mercy, and truth." {COL 415.3}.

NOTE: "God's character, His glory, His divinity all these elements are united in just one thing, His character, and are the essential points in the last message to be given to the world. This is the messages of Revelation 14:6-12, the three angel's messages. These

SANCTUARY STUDIES LESSON #5

messages have to be assimilated and become a part of our very being.

I will stop here and continue in the next lesson with part #3 of Christ coming to His Sanctuary. Please keep this lesson to supplement the next lesson.

Let us pray:

Holy Father, send Your holy spirit that we can understand the word of God, please forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Grant us a place in Your kingdom. May we love and obey You and each other, for the manifestation of love is the kingdom of God. I request these blessings in the name of Jesus, Your Son. Amen.

Your brother in Christ

Virgil Prindle