

Scriptures and Doctrine :: Are all Christians the Bride of Christ?

Are all Christians the Bride of Christ? - posted by Nile (), on: 2007/4/19 20:09

Ravenhill said in one of his sermons that he didn't believe that all Christians would be (or are) the Bride of Christ. That doesn't seem right to me. Is there is anyone here that agrees with Ravenhill? If so, what is your reasoning?

EDIT

It's on the sermon titled, "Hell No Exits" at about 56:40.

Here is the surrounding context:

"Revelation 21, and verse 7 says, 'He that overcometh shall inherit all things.' You know, we've such sloppy theology 'everybody that's saved is gonna be in the bride of Christ' - I don't believe it for a minute. I don't believe that. How did God make a bride for Adam? Did He take all of Adam? He took a part of Adam. And When Jesus comes for the bride He's not coming for every believer I'm sure of that. What makes us get so arrogant and feel so secure that we're so holy and wonderful? Listen, if you can't stand an extra long sermon, (if you hear me often enough you'll hear them), if you get uncomfortable after an hours preaching what in God's name are you going to do in the millenium?"

Then he goes on to talk about other things.

Re: Are all Christians the Bride of Christ?, on: 2007/4/19 20:46

The Bible's replete with examples of Hebrews claiming to be the servants of God, but they weren't.

Churchianity is replete with "Christians" who claim to be friends of Jesus, but they aren't. These are the vast majority of "Christians" who think they're saved... but they're going to hell.

"Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut the door, and ye began to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, I know you not whence you are: Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out. And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God. And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last." (LUKE 13:24-30)

Ecclesiastes said he searched and searched and could only find one righteous man in a thousand.

Re: - posted by Nile (), on: 2007/4/19 21:09

hmmmm, yes I would agree with everything you said.

However, maybe I didn't make it clear what the question was. Concerning the people who are genuinely saved and goin g to heaven - will there be a distinction between some who are the Bride of Christ and others who, though still in heaven, are not the Bride of Christ?

Re: Are all Christians the Bride of Christ? - posted by philologos (), on: 2007/4/20 1:06

Quote:

-----That doesn't seem right to me. Is there is anyone here that agrees with Ravenhill?

Can you tell us which sermon this is? It would be good to see the statement in context. Thanks.

Re: Are all Christians the Bride of Christ? - posted by Isleander (), on: 2007/4/20 7:09

I heard a similar thing said by a well known preacher/teacher from England back in the 70's, Brother G. W. North - who is now with the Lord. He stated that some believers "won't be in the Bride." But personally I have never understood this, nor tried to. Leonard Ravenhill and Brother North were from the same British Holiness background and, therefore, of a similar Holiness persuasion.

Could there be a link here? Is this theological concept derived from British Holiness teaching, or for that matter, Holiness theology in general?

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2007/4/20 8:39

The real question, as has already been commented upon, is 'are all Christians, Christians?'

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 8:50

The way I understand it, the "church" is the bride of Christ. The individual is the adopted son.

Romans 8:14 *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are **the sons of God**.*

Galations 4:6 *And because **ye are sons**, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father*

1 John 3:1 *Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the **sons of God**: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.*

1 John 3:2 *Beloved, now are we the **sons of God**, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.*

You won't find the expression "Bride of Christ" in the Bible. This is where that comes from:

Revelation 21:2 *And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared **as a bride** adorned for her husband.*

Notice it says "**as a bride**". It's symbolic, but it's obviously talking about the collective body of believers.

Krispy

Re: Are all Christians the Bride of Christ?, on: 2007/4/20 8:56

As was said...the Church, all those who are "In Christ" are the Bride of Christ. Anyone who says anything different goes completely against scripture.

That's why we need to filter everything that any man says...yes even Ravenhill...through the lens of what is revealed in scripture.

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 9:04

Quote:
-----As was said...the Church, all those who are "In Christ" are the Bride of Christ. Anyone who says anything different goes completely against scripture.

Yes, that is how people are getting off into this heresy of Bridal Mysticism, which is really getting a foothold in many Charismatic Churches.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 9:05

Be careful not to discredit Leonard Ravenhill because of a misunderstanding of what he was saying. What the world call s the "church" and what God calls the Church are two different things. I have been confused and have even confused ot hers when speaking because I did not differentiate between the two.

I think we should refer to the "church" as we know it as "the system" or "the institution"

and leave the word church to its true definition.

In Christ - Jim

Re: - posted by JaySaved, on: 2007/4/20 9:22

Just because someone walks an aisle, signs a card, and says they want to ask Jesus into their heart doesn't automatical ly make them a Christian.

2 Timothy 2:19, "...God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: The Lord knows those who are his, and, Let everyone who names the name of the Lord depart from iniquity."

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 9:22

I dont think Ravenhill was being discredited... the comment was made that we need to double check every thing we're t aught with scripture, even if it came from Ravenhill. I agree with that statement completely.

The Bereans double checked the Apostle Paul. Here's a guy who is writing most of the New Testament... and he was be ing double checked by a small group of beleivers in some church in Berea... and he commended them for it.

Krispy

Re: Not all Israel is Israel - posted by DesiJr, on: 2007/4/20 9:34

Here is what Ravenhill meant:

Romans 9:6-8 (Not all of Israel is Israel)

6Not as though the word of God hath taken none effect. For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel:

7Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, In Isaac shall thy seed be called.

8That is, They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.

This statement by Ravenhill is like saying not all Christian churches are actually the body of Christ. God knows who is th e real body of Christ.

Church is referred to as many things in the bible:

The Bride, the word makes many mentions of this throughout...not just in Revelation.

As a virgin

As a wife

As children

As lambs

As sheep....and so on.

Ravenhill is simply stating a truth. Yet, we must be carefull that we do not take this statement and apply it to individuals. This decision of who really is a Christian is only answered by God...we should not look into our own congregation and st art deciding along with God...this person will not be part of the bride (the church) when Christ comes back.

Our job is to encourage and correct those that are in the "system" as my brother so well put it, and help them to become a part of the virgin bride.

James 4:11-17

11 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

12 There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?

13 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:

14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

15 For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.

16 But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.

17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 9:48

This doesn't need to end up as a "Ravenhill Defense" thread... someone mentioned we should double check the teachers we listen to. That's 100% scriptural.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 9:49

How did I discredit Mr. Ravenhill? By saying that even his words are subject to the bible, just like any other man's words.

I have listened to many sermons by Mr. Ravenhill and I have a couple of his books. I am challenged every time I read or listen to him, but let's be honest here...

He was a very dogmatic individual and many times he would give his opinion in his messages (like "a guitar is a backslidden harp") and those comments can affect a young believer's walk with God. They did mine.

I have heard several preachers talk about the "Bride of Christ" as something to which the Church attains. You know... "without spot and without wrinkle" If only we do this and this, then we will be worthy to be called the "Bride of Christ"

As Krispy said the Bride of Christ is a word picture describing the relationship between God and His people. It is not something we become it is something we are because we are "in Christ". We are the Bride. We are the Body. We are the Church. We are the remnant. We are the brothers and sisters of Jesus. We are all these things, because we are "in Christ".

Like Hosea's wife we were all whores and adulteresses, BUT GOD chose us and amazingly Christ came to us and bowed His knee (HE humbled Himself)

and asked us to be His Bride...amazing! He promised to make us beautiful (without spot and without wrinkle). He made us worthy simply by regarding our state. He is a faithful Husband who will never leave nor forsake us....never!

...even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were...

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2007/4/20 10:05

Quote:

-----many times he would give his opinion in his messages (like "a guitar is a backslidden harp")

Ravenhill makes this "tongue-in-cheek" comment in just about every message I've heard. It always elicits laughter. Just like the one about John Wesley at his death leaving behind only a couple of coins, a Geneva gown, some silver spoons... and, umm, something else...I can't seem to remember...oh, yes! the Methodist church!

I don't think his jocular comment on guitars being backslidden harps is meant to be taken over-seriously. We know Ravenhill

Ravenhill spiritually supported Keith Green, who used guitars in his music. The comment he made about not all believers being at the Wedding Banquet was based off of Matthew 25 and the parable of the 10 virgins. He simply noted that though all 10 of the women were virgins, 5 actually entered in while the other 5 were shut out of the Bridegroom's feast. The whole thing had to do with distinctions being made in heaven.

I'll try to get the name of the sermon, as I have it on VHS (and it's always a pain trying to find something on VHS).

Brother Paul

Re: Mahoney - posted by DesiJr, on: 2007/4/20 10:06

Great response...we all should take man's understanding of the word carefully and thoughtfully....no one is to be 100% trusted...we ALL lack perfect understanding.

That's what makes SI so much fun for some and frustrating for others.

Some people believe that they have all the truth and the understanding thereof so they are always frustrated...some people are here to share what they understand up to this season of their lives and are happy just to share.

Re: - posted by Nile (), on: 2007/4/20 11:19

Quote:

-----Can you tell us which sermon this is? It would be good to see the statement in context. Thanks.

I'll try to find it. I believe it was in either "Hell No Exits" or "Judgment Seat of Christ."

Re: - posted by Nile (), on: 2007/4/20 11:41

It's on the sermon titled, "Hell No Exits" at about 56:40.

Here is the surrounding context:

"Revelation 21, and verse 7 says, 'He that overcometh shall inherit all things.' You know, we've such sloppy theology 'e **verybody that's saved is gonna be in the bride of Christ** - I don't believe it for a minute. I don't believe that. How did God make a bride for Adam? Did He take all of Adam? He took a part of Adam. And When Jesus comes for the bride He's not coming for every believer I'm sure of that. What makes us get so arrogant and feel so secure that we're so holy and wonderful? Listen, if you can't stand an extra long sermon, (if you hear me often enough you'll hear them), if you get uncomfortable after an hours preaching what in God's name are you going to do in the millenium?"

Then he goes on to talk about other things.

So after seeing it again in context, I'm still confused :-(

Is he talking about the distinction between true converts and false converts, or the distinction between Christians that are the bride and Christians that aren't the bride?

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 11:48

I never said that we shouldn't test everything. Due to a possible misunderstanding in what people call the church, the comment about testing Ravenhill could very easily be isogetically interpreted to mean "see - we caught ravenhill teaching falsely", when in fact we might just misunderstand what he is saying. I was just simply clarifying that and look forward to more discussion on the actual comment.

Jim

Re: The Bride of Christ - posted by UniqueWebRev (), on: 2007/4/20 12:11

Nile,

It is not our righteousness, but Christ's righteousness in us that makes us all a member of the 'Church', and the Church, the total of all of us, is the Bride of Christ.

Revelation 19

1. And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God:
2. For true and righteous are his judgments: for he hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hand.
3. And again they said, Alleluia. And her smoke rose up for ever and ever.
4. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia.
5. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great.
6. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
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.
8. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.
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.

Those that are saved outside the Church, including all of man that are not saved in Christ, whether Jew or Gentile, at the beginning or at the end, pass through the White Throne Judgement, where Christ evaluates their knowledge of God, whether taught by observance of nature alone, or by a Pharisee, or by God Himself in Eden, and their faith and belief in God, and their works, according to their faith.

EDIT: Revelation 20: 11. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.

12. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.
13. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.
14. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
15. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire. EDIT ENDED

These are not works for the sake of works, but, according to what they did know, how well did they treat others, and how did they view God, and reverence Him, even if it was no more than reverential fear of what they did not understand, but knew was greater than themselves.

Blessings,

Forrest

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 12:21

Hmmm... WebRev... wow, what a can of worms that post could open!

Krispy

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 12:25

I do not think anyone here is interested in "catching" Mr. Ravenhill doing anything. The question was asked whether what he said was true or not according to scripture. And it is a very important question...it has to do with a true believer's relationship to God.

If not all believer's, all that are saved, are now and will be a part of the Bride of Christ? Then who? Who are the special ones? To what level have they attained that get the privilege of being married to Christ?

Based upon the context in which it was said, it is just not true. It was his opinion based upon his own theological/denominational background.

As was said, we need to be Bereans. Search the scriptures. I don't care who the preacher is. Listen, I love preaching. I love to be challenged. I ask God before I hear a message to let the Word be like a two-edged sword and expose all false thinking...anything false. I am not afraid of a hard Word because I know that God uses everything to bring me into Liberty. Freedom to walk with Him. Freedom to obey Him. Power over my flesh. Power over the bondage that men might want to put on me. I learned long ago never to be afraid of anything God might tell me, BUT...

I refuse to accept man's opinion on scripture especially if it will lead me to bondage. Stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has MADE us free.

Our freedom in Christ is based upon what Christ has already done!

Another example of a man's zeal for holiness (yet without knowledge) is found in a line in Keith Green's song To Obey is Better Than Sacrifice.

This is him speaking for God:

"...if you can't come to me everyday than don't bother coming at all."

I use that as an example because it affected my walk with God for years...yes years!

Search the scriptures brethren. Honor those to whom honor is due, but let know one entangle you in a yoke of bondage!

Re: - posted by Nile (), on: 2007/4/20 12:34

Quote:
-----If not all believer's, all that are saved, are now and will be a part of the Bride of Christ? Then who? Who are the special ones? To what level have they attained that get the privilege of being married to Christ?

Based upon the context in which it was said, it is just not true. It was his opinion based upon his own theological/denominational background.

These were my thoughts also. I just wasn't sure if this was some wide-spread view that I hadn't heard about before.

Re: Can of Worms - posted by UniqueWebRev (), on: 2007/4/20 12:34

Ah, Krispy,

But what interesting worms they might be!

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 12:38

When testing something from scripture, or even that a believer says, we must use sound hermeneutics. We cant just take one piece of a writing or audio without exmining it against context, and the overall positions of the author.

Before the context was posted, we had nothing to go by other then what we though he might be saying. I look forward to hearing more based on the additional information we now have.

I know of nothing in scripture to suggest that there are two types of TRUE (soundly saved) believers... (one is part of the bride, one is not). However I myself will say that the majority of Christians are not part of the bride. Simply because they are not truly Christians... I am just extening them the title Christian based on outward appearance and their self profession.

We have so maligned the definition of the word christian and church (its not a building believe it or not) that we can often becaome confused if we are using the same terms but understand them to have different meanings. I am curious if this is the case with Ravenhills comment or if he is saying what it appears he is saying.

in Christ - Jim

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2007/4/20 12:43

I don't really know Ravenhill's eschatology, but I know some do not believe all Christians will go in the "rapture" but only those that are "ready." In that view the others "have washed their robes" during the tribulation.

Re: Bride of Christ - posted by UniqueWebRev (), on: 2007/4/20 13:43

Quote:

PreachParsly wrote:

I don't really know Ravenhill's eschatology, but I know some do not believe all Christians will go in the "rapture" but only those that are "ready." In that view the others "have washed their robes" during the tribulation.

Preach,

I would make the argument that only those that are watching for the 'Rapture' will go in it, leaving out a lot of Laodiceans, who think they are saved, but are not, because they have never come into relationship with Christ.

I believe that the 'Rapture' is a major wakeup call to the Laodicean Church, of whom some will believe the 'lie', and others will wash their robes in the Tribulation.

Whether the 'Bride of Christ' relates solely to those that were watching, and went up in the 'Rapture', or includes those who are martyred for Christ for not taking the 'Mark', depends greatly on whether you are looking at the 'Wedding Supper of the Lamb' from the viewpoint of 'Earth Time' up to the Rapture, or 'Eternal Time', in which those killed in the Tribulation would go to be with the Lord at the 3 and 1/2 years into the Tribulation, when the 'Mark' is required by the Beast. If you are going from that viewpoint, they would arrive to be with Christ in the middle of the Wedding Supper, but only if the Rapture takes place prior to the Tribulation.

I myself can't imagine Christ differentiating between 'True Christians' now, and 'True Christians' later, since they are all the Church Corporate of Christ, for being in Him, we automatically have salvation, and are judged only for works done with the right motive, and includes a Crown for the Martyrs, which I presume belongs as much to the Martyrs before the Trib. and during the Trib.

Of course, this gets so complicated that this is why Krispy said I was opening up a can of worms.

But, I like worms!

Blessings,

Forrest

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 13:54

Quote:

-----Of course, this gets so complicated that this is why Krispy said I was opening up a can of worms.

I thought there was a simplicity in Christ.

Re: Simplicity in Christ - posted by UniqueWebRev (), on: 2007/4/20 14:03

Quote:

Mahoney wrote:

Quote:

-----Of course, this gets so complicated that this is why Krispy said I was opening up a can of worms.

I thought there was a simplicity in Christ.

There is. Our belief or 'faith-ing' in Him is our 'work', and our belief in Him gains us everything.

How and when it all comes to us is the interesting part.

Blessings,

Forrest

Re: The Bride of Christ - posted by UniqueWebRev (), on: 2007/4/20 14:12

Nile,

All we Christians are the body of the Church, and the Church is the Bride of Christ.

There is no righteousness in any of us. All our righteousness is a gift of God to us through Christ in our redemption through Him, and in Him are all of us made to be His bride.

Anyone who is not a true convert is not a part of the Church, and alas, automatically is destined for Hell if they cannot pass through the fire at the White Throne Judgement, where Christ will decide if, according to what they were taught, and how they sought the face of God, whether they are going to Hell.

Remember that not all who fail to find Christ are denied salvation. It depends on Christ's judgement of their understanding of God as written in the cosmos, and/or in the Law, if they are Jews.

Back to clarity,

Scriptures and Doctrine :: Are all Christians the Bride of Christ?

Blessings,

Forrest

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 14:24

Quote:

-----It depends on Christ's judgement of their understanding of God as written in the cosmos, and/or in the Law

WOW... we had better stop sending our missionaries to the good people in the jungles that have never heard the name of Christ... why ruin their salvation that comes apart from Christ?

Jim

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 14:32

Quote:

-----Remember that not all who fail to find Christ are denied salvation. It depends on Christ's judgement of their understanding of God as written in the cosmos, and/or in the Law, if they are Jews.

So then Paul was wrong then, righteousness actually does come through the law...?

Re: Are all Christians the Bride of Christ?, on: 2007/4/20 15:15

Nile said:

Quote:
-----Ravenhill said in one of his sermons that he didn't believe that all Christians would be (or are) the Bride of Christ. That doesn't seem right to me. Is there anyone here that agrees with Ravenhill? If so, what is your reasoning?

Thats a good question. I have recently pondered this question. I wish I could give you an adequate reason as to why I agree with Ravenhill, the problem is I'd have to write a book to explain it all. The theme of my book would be, "He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved".

A very good question Nile, an important one at that!

Re:, on: 2007/4/20 15:43

In reference to Mahoney and Jims' most recent posts... I was wondering how long it would take for those questions to pop up. It took longer than I thought!

;-)

... this is the "can of worms" which I spoke of!

Krispy

Re: Are all Christians the Bride of Christ? - posted by Isleander (), on: 2007/4/20 15:46

Paul seems to have the key to the question here -

II Corinthians 11:2-3 "For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."

By the way, the Bride is only mentioned FOUR times in Scripture. Once by John the Baptist, three times in The Book of Revelation.

John 3:27-29

“John (the Baptist) answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven. Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him. He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this is my joy therefore is fulfilled.”

Revelation 21:2

It is clear that the Bride of Christ is the New Jerusalem –

“...I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”

Revelation 21:9

The Lamb's wife – “...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.”

Revelation 22:17

Who along with the Spirit is saying - “...Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

Re: - posted by Nile (), on: 2007/4/20 16:09

Thanks for those verses Isleander. I'll have to ponder this some more, but it definitely seems to me that the whole church is the Bride.

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2007/4/20 21:54

Quote: "So then Paul was wrong then, righteousness actually does come through the law...?"

We all know that is wrong. We in Christ Jesus are dead to the Law. Only death comes through the Law. Rom 7:11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew .

The Lie, you work the works of the law and you will be righteous. Again Satan same old lie, "you will be as gods". "There is none righteous, no, not one." Rom 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

Isa 41:26 Who hath declared from the beginning, that we may know? and beforetime, that we may say, righteous? yea, none that sheweth, yea, none that declareth, yea, none that heareth your words.

Isa 57:1 The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth to heart: and merciful men taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil .

The Great White Throne Judgment is not the Judgement Seat of Christ, The Great White Throne Judgement is after the tribulation, the Judgement Seat of Christ is before the tribulation or during for the Bride of Christ.

The Scripture has already declared who will be saved.

Romans 3:8-10 And not rather, (as we be slanderously reported, and as some affirm that we say,) Let us do evil, that good may come? whose damnation is just. What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin; As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

John 3:15-19 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. That is Period.

Where does it say that in the Great White Throne Judgement anyone will be saved, It is for Judgement that all might see

the Righteousness of God and all, all have no excuse.

The Judgement Seat of Christ is for those that are in Christ, with His Spirit, His Mind, and A Body just like His. This Judgement is to see what we have done with the Christ that is given into us, as those that got the talons of God, some 5, some 1, so what did we do with the Gold of Christ that is in us.

Rom 14:10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

2Cr 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things in body, according to that he hath done, whether good or bad.

Good or bad in Christ, the bad being far better than the good of Satan and sin. 1Jo 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. 1Cr 1:25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

In Christ, new creatures unto judgment of rewards and reconciliation of Christ unto the world to those that God has prepared to believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God:

Phillip

Re: - posted by Isleander (), on: 2007/4/21 12:14

Christinyou wrote:

Quote:

----- "So then Paul was wrong then, righteousness actually does come through the law...?"

Phillip

Have you posted your comments in the correct forum? I think this string is intended for "Are all Christians the Bride of Christ."

Re: - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2007/4/21 18:53

by Isleander on 2007/4/21 9:14:13

Christinyou wrote:

Quote:

"So then Paul was wrong then, righteousness actually does come through the law...?"

Phillip

Have you posted your comments in the correct forum? I think this string is intended for "Are all Christians the Bride of Christ."

I don't understand, I did not write the Quote.

I was answering the quote.

Please clarify your comment. "Have you posted your comments in the correct forum? I think this string is intended for "Are all Christians the Bride of Christ?"

The answer plain: Yes.

The first comment that I did not write of Paul being wrong I hope was a ploy to get all to understand that Paul was right. Righteousness does not come by the Law. It comes to the Bride of Christ by the Bridegroom. 1 Corinthians 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

In Christ: Phillip

Re: Bride of Christ - posted by UniqueWebRev (), on: 2007/4/22 5:07

Quote:

KrispyKrittr wrote:

In reference to Mahoney and Jims' most recent posts... I was wondering how long it would take for those questions to pop up. It took longer than I thought!

;-)

... this is the "can of worms" which I spoke of!

Krispy

Yes, and what excellent worms they are!

As to Mahoney and Jims:

I want as many people in the Church as we can get to come, but if they are not reached before they die, and before Christ returns, I wanted people to know there is a chance for them, but only through the Great White Throne Judgement.

Not my idea of a good way to get into heaven, but there for those we have not reached.

May they at least have seen God in the cosmos, and being weighed in the balance, not be found wanting.

Alas, this includes many children of Abraham, through Jacob's line, that follow the Law, and do not seek Christ for Grace. So few will go into the Millennium, and most (5786 +/- years worth) may be going through that judgement. It rather depends for those before Christ, and who were not witnessed to while Christ was in Hades/Sheol(not Hell).

Besides, I support Missions!

Ah Krispy, do you not see that 'worms' are good food for the mind? All protein to those of us used to Grace, that may need their Bible's opened.

Blessings,

Forrest

Re: Are all Christians the Bride of Christ? - posted by vasilef (), on: 2015/3/4 3:24

I open this thread again because I was having the same question many years ago and I somehow agree with bro. Ravehill that there is a difference between the Church and the Bride.

Revelation 19:7-8

Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready.

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.

Question: Who is the bride?

Answer: the one who "has made herself ready."

and

the one who had her clothe ready, bright and clean.

The bride receives her clothe from the Lord but she is the one who is making that clothe with the "righteous acts of the saints."

Search for information about a typical Jew wedding in Bible time. A virgin had to be ready before the marriage ceremony. If she was not ready she was not qualified to be a bride.

more insight on this matter from T.A. Sparks

<https://www.sermonindex.net/modules/articles/index.php?view=article&aid=21201>

The Calling of the Whole Church

We must dismiss another thing: the idea that the bride is a select company, chosen and appointed to be like this. We must make no such distinction and discrimination between the church given as a whole and the bride. The whole church is called to this â€” that is the revelation of the New Testament; not only some, but the whole church. Whether the whole church will arrive, or arrive at the same time, is an open question, but we are all called to it, every one. This is incumbent upon us all, not merely upon some called â€œovercomersâ€œ, a â€œbrideâ€œ, â€œfirstfruitsâ€œ, and so on. This is the church in view. There may be those who move ahead of others, who go on more rapidly than others, who satisfy the Lord more quickly than others; the others may lag behind and come on afterwards; but whether all attain unto the same glory or not, this is what we are all called to. None of us is excused by any provision made by the Lord. The Lord has not got pigeon-holes already fixed, saying, â€œWe put first-class Christians in there and second-class Christians in there, and provide for them accordingly.â€œ He has only one pigeon-hole in view. If you do not come into it He has not provided a place for you anywhere else, and He has told you that you will lose very much. It is a very serious thing not to answer to Him in the primary way.

The Bride, the Wife of the Lamb

â€œThe bride, the Lambâ€™s wife.â€œ Do not ask the mechanical question, Who will be in the bridal party? Who will comprise the bride? There again you are mentally dividing things up. I can tell you at once who will be the bride. Not a certain number of people who are called to be the bride, as different from others, but those who come to the bridal position spiritually. They will be the bride, and that is open to everyone. The bride is not a technical term belonging to a certain class, order and section of Christians. It is a spiritual term belonging to a condition, a spiritual state.

â€œThe bride, the Lambâ€™s wifeâ€œ, is the term here. â€œThe Lambâ€™s wifeâ€œ â€” what does that mean? The Lamb was one who suffered in meekness. â€œAs a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep that before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouthâ€œ (Isa. 53:7). The Lamb went that way: the bride will know the fellowship of His sufferings, and must be of the same spirit of meekness. No standing for her own rights, upon her own dignity, asserting her own interests, but letting go to the Lord, in self-emptying and meekness. That is the Lamb, and that is the bride, the Lambâ€™s wife, taking her character from Him.

The Lamb in the Midst of the Throne

Ah, but there is the other side. There is a Lamb in the midst of the throne. There is the wrath of the Lamb â€” the Lamb shall make war. The mighty â€œbeastâ€œ rears himself â€” what a terrific force is represented by the â€œbeastâ€œ here.

He is let loose in all his ferocity and malignity and evil and mighty power. And then the Lamb makes war and smashes the beast, destroys him. The LAMB does it. There is a mighty power bound up in this weakness. Oh, we have not yet learned the strength of weakness, the strength of emptiness, which means that there is nothing in ourselves but everything in the Lord. When the Lord gets people there, the enemy is afraid; something is going to happen. We can never overcome the enemy while we are standing up for our own rights, while we are in any way defending our own interests, looking after our own name, being something or trying to be something or hold on to something. The enemy laughs at us, breaks us. When we know that meekness of the Lamb, the meekness of Jesus Christ, then the enemy's power is going to be weakened and destroyed. These are principles in the book.

The wife of the Lamb is going to be with Him in His throne. Let us dismiss the symbolism and grasp the principle and the spiritual meaning. It is absolute ascendancy in Heaven over all the forces of the earth and hell, vested in the Lamb, and conferred upon His bride, the Lamb's wife. It is the mighty power of a yielded life, the mighty power of weakness of the right kind – that is, of dependence, conscious dependence upon the Lord.