

A scroll of aged parchment with a dark brown, textured border and a lighter, yellowish-tan center. The text is written in a cursive, brown font. The scroll is unrolled, showing the edges of the parchment.

*Biblical
Wedding
Vows*

Wedding Vows At Mount Sinai



The Gathering

- ◆ Are the Ten Commandments a list of do's and don'ts? A list of rules to follow?
- ◆ Was the gathering at Mt. Sinai where the Hebrews placed themselves under a very burdensome yoke? Perhaps, perhaps not.
- ◆ Let us examine this gathering from a different perspective; the perspective of a marriage and the taking of wedding vows.

The Courtship Miracles: 1-5

After four hundred years of slavery in Egypt, Yahweh began to prepare the Hebrews to leave Egypt. To do so, he first vanquished ten of the Egyptian gods (*Exodus Chapters 7 to 12*):

1. **Exodus 7:14-24** – HAPI, the god of the Nile. *The Nile turns to blood.*
2. **Exodus 8:1-5** – HEQIT, Frog-headed bringer of fertility and goddess of fruitfulness. *Frogs everywhere.*
3. **Exodus 8:16-19** – LEL, god of the Earth. *Gnats everywhere.*
4. **Exodus 8:20-32** – KHEPERA, Beetle god in the form of a beetle. *Flies everywhere.*
5. **Exodus 9:1-7** – APIS/HATHOR Apis was the god of cattle, and Hathor a cow-headed goddess. *The cattle die.*

The Courtship Miracles: 6-10

After four hundred years of slavery in Egypt, Yahweh began to prepare the Hebrews to leave Egypt. To do so, he first vanquished ten of the Egyptian gods (*Exodus Chapters 7 to 12*):

6. **Exodus 9:8-12** – NUT - goddess of Heaven. *Boils appear on the Egyptians.*
7. **Exodus 9:18-35** – IRIS - god of Water. *Hail covers the land, kills many people, plants, and livestock.*
8. **Exodus 10:12-20** – SERAPIA/SEBEK – Serapia, the protector from Locusts; Sebek the god of Insects. *The locusts eat everything in sight.*
9. **Exodus 10:21-29** – RA or RE, The Sun god. *Darkness covers all of Egypt except Goshen, the residence of the Hebrews.*
10. **Exodus 12:1-36** – PHARAOH, Considered to be a son of the gods. *Death of all of the firstborn sons.*

More Courtship Miracles

After vanquishing the ten Egyptian gods, Yahweh next performs numerous miracles – pathways through the sea, sweet water, quail, manna, and even more fresh water:

1. **Exodus 14:15-28** – The Hebrews walk through the Red Sea on dry land, but the Pharaoh and his army drowns.
2. **Exodus 15:22-25** – The bitter water at the well of Marah is turned into sweet water.
3. **Exodus 16:10-13** – Quail are provided for the grumblers to eat in the Wilderness of Sin between Elim and Sinai.
4. **Exodus 16:14-34** – Manna is provided for the grumblers to eat in the Wilderness of Sin between Elim and Sinai.
5. **Exodus 17:2-6** – Water from the split rock at Mount Sinai is provided for the grumblers.

The Wedding Ceremony

Exodus 19:5 – *“If you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, then you shall be my own possession among all the peoples.”*

- Finally the Hebrews arrive at Mount Sinai, also known as Mount Horeb or Jebel al-Lawz.
- This mountain, contrary to many who place it in the Sinai peninsula, is in Midian, or Saudi Arabia, the land of Moses' father-in-law, Jethro (**Exodus 3:1**).
- It is here that the actual wedding ceremony takes place.

The Four Necessary Signs

1. **A Mikvah** מקווה, a ceremonial place or pool used for ritual cleansing and immersion – *Yahweh commands the people to cleanse themselves and make themselves ready for the marriage* (Exodus 19:10-14).
2. **A Chuppah** חופה, a place of covering, a canopy – *not only does Yahweh cover the entire mountain with a cloud, but Hebrew scripture can literally be translated “they stood under the mountain”* (Exodus 19:17).
3. **A Ketubah** כתובה, a written contract or marriage agreement – *the two copies of the Ten Commandments; one copy for the husband, one for the wife. Yahweh trusted his bride so fully both copies were given for her to hold and to keep* (Exodus 20:1-17).
4. **A Sign** אות, a visible, tangible expression of the love – *Yahweh institutes the Sabbath as a weekly sign that he and his bride belong to each other and enjoy each other’s presence* (Exodus 20:1-24, Exodus 31:13-17).



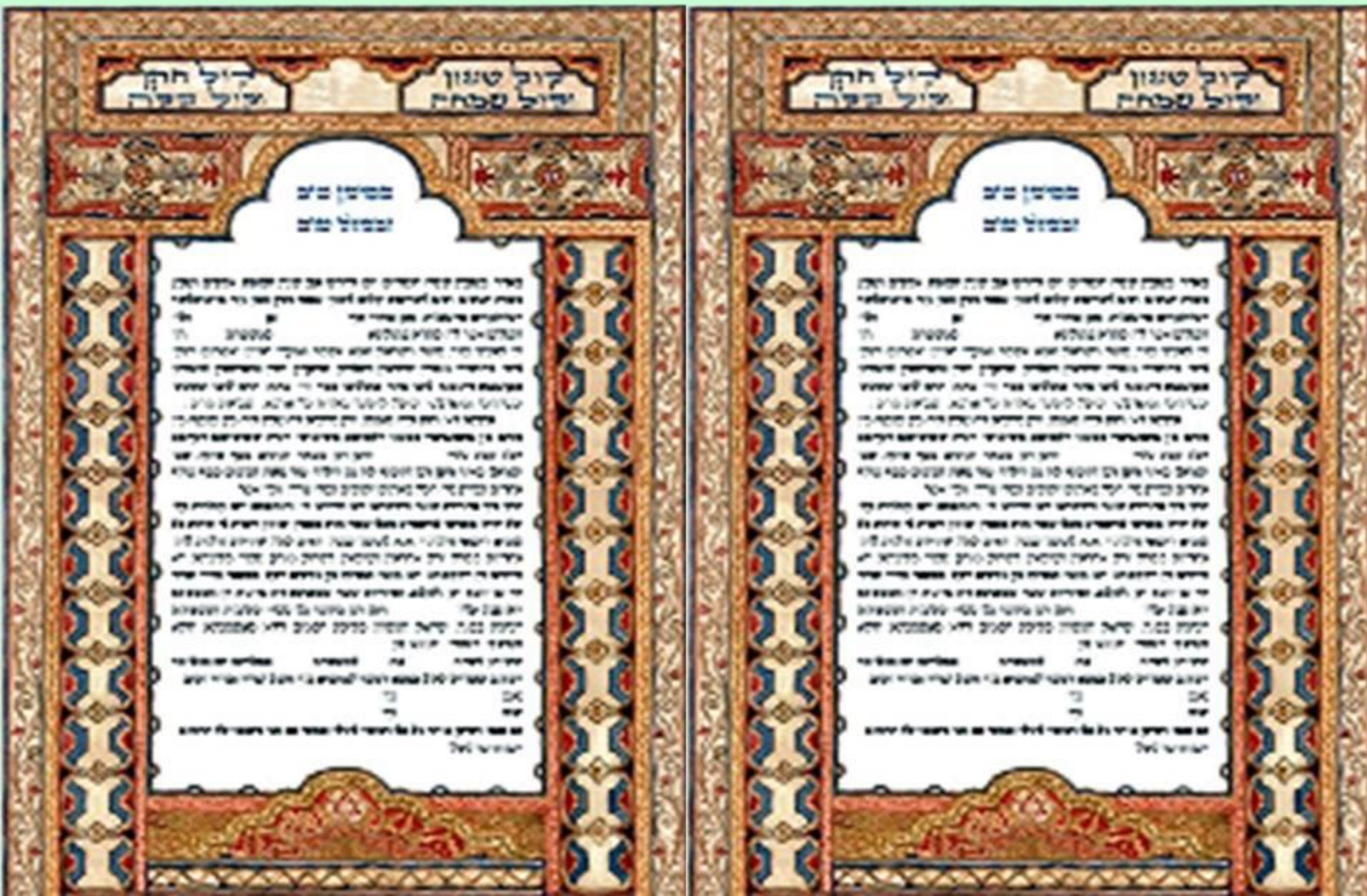
A Mikvah Immersion Pool מקווה



A Chuppah Canopy חופּה



A Ketubah Contract פְּתוּבָה



A Sign of True Love τix

TRUE
LOVE
WAS BORN
IN A STABLE

The Ketubah



Exodus Chapter 20

- The first seventeen verses of Exodus Chapter 20 give us the Ketubah – the marriage contract.
- Are the Ten Commandments a list of do's and don'ts? A list of rules to follow? Yes, they are all of that, but are also much more.
- Each commandment is also an expectation of the behavior that describes a person's behavior once they are married.

The Ketubah

The Commandments: 1-4

- **Commandment One:** Yahweh has just vanquished all of the Egyptian gods, whom he calls "other lovers", then brings the Hebrews out to Mount Sinai, and says in effect: *"Remember what I've done for you. Put me first. Have no other lovers (gods) before me, for I have taken you to be my bride."* (More on this commandment below).
- **Commandment Two:** Yahweh then says in effect: *"Now that I'm your number one lover, don't dwell on your former lovers. In fact, don't make statues of them, don't keep paintings of them on your walls, don't listen to them, don't even talk about them!"*
- **Commandment Three:** Yahweh then says in effect: *"When you take my name as your name, don't do it lightly or in vain."* (More on this commandment below).
- **Commandment Four:** Yahweh then says in effect: *"Spend quality time with me. Let's meet together every Sabbath and get to know each other more intimately."*

The Ketubah

The Commandments: 5-10

- **Commandment Five:** Yahweh then says in effect: *"Have respect for your parents and each other."*
- **Commandment Six:** Yahweh then says in effect: *"Don't murder each other. Life is precious and is not to be taken."*
- **Commandment Seven:** Yahweh then says in effect: *"Don't take other lovers. I am your true husband."* (More on this commandment below).
- **Commandment Eight:** Yahweh then says in effect: *"Don't take each other's belongings. I will supply all your needs."*
- **Commandment Nine:** Yahweh then says in effect: *"Don't lie or tell each other tall tales. Speak only the truth."*
- **Commandment Ten:** Yahweh then says in effect: *"Don't crave another's spouse, possessions or servants. I will supply all your needs."*



Commandment One: *The Husband*

Isaiah 54:5 – *“For your creator is your husband - His name is: the LORD of hosts; the Redeemer; the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth.”*

Yahweh is clearly described as the Hebrew's true husband. In the same way, Yeshua is the true husband of the Bride of Christ.

Jeremiah 2:2 – *“I remember the devotion of your youth, the love of your betrothal, your following me in the wilderness.”*

The Hebrews are clearly described as taking Yahweh as her husband at Mount Sinai.

Hosea, Chapter Two – This chapter is an unhappy comment on the Hebrew's harlotry at Mount Sinai and afterward. She has chased other lovers of whom she says have given her *“my bread and my water”* (2:5), but it is only Yahweh who really gives her the bread and water.



Commandment One: *The Wife*

The expression, “**took . . . to be his wife**”, is used throughout scripture to describe a marriage and the attendant ceremony and taking of vows. A few samples are listed below:

- **Genesis 11:29** – Abram and Nahor took wives for themselves. Abram’s wife was Sarah, and Nahor’s wife was Milcah.
- **Genesis 21:21** – Ishmael took a woman from Egypt to be his wife.
- **Genesis 24:67** – Isaac took Rebekah as his wife, and he loved her.
- **Genesis 26:34 and 28:9** – Esau took women as wives from the Hittites and from the Ishmaelites.
- **Genesis 29:21-28** – Jacob took both Leah and Rachel to be his wives.
- **2 Samuel 11:27** – David took Bathsheba to be his wife.

The same expression, “**took . . . to be his wife**”, is used to describe Yahweh taking the Hebrews as his wife:

- **Exodus 19:5-6** – *“If you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then I shall take you to be My Cēgullah among all the peoples.”*

Yahweh will take as his wife (*his cēgullah – his peculiar treasure*) those who obey their wedding vows. They become a kingdom of priests, exactly the same expression used in **Revelation 1:6** to describe the Bride of Christ!

The Ketubah Amplified



Commandment Three: *The Name*

“When you take my name as your name, don’t do it lightly or in vain.”

In a Jewish wedding ceremony, once the groom had established and paid the purchase price for the bride he would then offer the Cup Of Covenant to his prospective bride, thereby pledging his life to and for his bride.

If the bride accepted this promise, she would then drink of the cup confirming that she, too, would pledge her life to and for her betrothed.

This was never done lightly or frivolously – from this point on the bridegroom and bride-to-be were considered married, and all the covenants, privileges, and duties of a fully married couple applied.



Commandment Seven: *The Spouse*

Genesis 2:24 – *“A man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.”*

In essence, the seventh commandment states: *“I, Yahweh allow each man to have only one woman as his lover until your physical body becomes a spiritual body. Likewise, women, I allow each woman to have only one man as her lover until your physical body becomes a spiritual body.”*

In Matthew Chapter 22, Mark Chapter 12, and Luke Chapter 20, Yeshua is questioned about a woman who had had seven husbands, all of whom had died. The question is asked, *“In the resurrection, who’s wife will she be?”* To which Yeshua replies, *“She will be the wife of no one, but will be like the angels in Heaven who are neither given nor taken in marriage.”*

The angels have only one “husband”, the Lord God Almighty, Yahweh, Adonai. When we are resurrected, we will have only one “husband” as well. It is only in this physical life that Yahweh allows a man to have a wife and a woman to have a husband.

Once we are resurrected, and are given our spiritual, immortal, incorruptible bodies, we are no longer given nor taken in marriage.



Commandment Seven: *The Eunuch*

- Even in this physical dimension, there are those who are neither given nor taken in marriage and who belong solely to their true husband, the Lord God Almighty, Adonai:
- **Matthew 19:12** – *“For there are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother’s womb; and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men; and there are also eunuchs who made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to accept this, let him accept it.”*
- **Isaiah 56:4-5** – *“For thus says Adonai: ‘To the eunuchs that keep my Sabbaths, and choose the things that please me, and take hold of my covenant; Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off’.”*

Those who are eunuchs are not to consider themselves to be a dry tree with no children and no future according to **Isaiah 56:3**.

Wedding Vows

At a Jewish Wedding Ceremony



The Jewish Wedding Ceremony

A Jewish Wedding Ceremony is full of significant rituals and is a perfect prophetic parallel of the coming of Yeshua to take his church to be his Bride, a dress rehearsal for The Rapture.

Several elements at the Mount Sinai Wedding are present at every Jewish Wedding Ceremony as well, including:

- a ketubah [from kathab כתב - H3791] (*a written contract or marriage agreement*)
- a mikvah [מקווה - H4723] (*the place of cleansing and preparation*)
- a chuppah [חופה - H2646] (*a covering or canopy*)
- and a sign [אות - H226], (*a visible, tangible expression of the love - the calling up of the bride*)

The Expedition

John 6:51 – *“I am the living bread which came down from heaven . . .”*

In a Jewish marriage, the husband-to-be (*groom*) would consult with his father regarding the woman he wished to take as a bride.

If the father agreed to the groom’s plan, then the groom would leave his father’s home and travel to his betrothed’s (*bride*) home and speak with the betrothed’s father.

Yeshua left His heavenly home, where his father dwells, and traveled to the Earth, the home of his betrothed, the Church, called the *Bride of Christ*.

The Proposal And The Ketubah

Matthew 26:27 – *Yeshua took a cup and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Drink from it, all of you . . .”*

Once the groom reached the bride's home, he would establish and pay the purchase price for the bride, guaranteeing that he was serious about the marriage.

Yeshua paid the ultimate price by being crucified and shedding his blood.

The groom would compose and verify a written marriage contract, the Ketubah, with the bride's father, then offer the cup of covenant to his prospective bride, thereby pledging his life to and for his bride.

If the bride accepted this promise, she would then drink of the cup confirming that she, too, would pledge her life to and for her betrothed.

Yeshua offers us the cup at every communion – you either accept his offer or reject it.

The Leaving

John 14:1-3 – *“Yeshua said, ‘Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in Yahweh, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father’s house; I would not tell you this if it were not true. I am going there to prepare a place for you. After I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me so that you may be where I am’.”*

Once the proposal had been given and accepted, the groom would say to his bride, *“I go to prepare a place for you”* then go back to his father’s home. He would build an addition for himself and his bride and wait for his father’s approval.

The new addition had to be exceptional, stocked with all the newlyweds would need for their seven days of honeymoon.

Yeshua has returned to the Father in Heaven to prepare a home for his bride!

It was customary for the groom to be gone for a long time and for the bride to wait in anticipation of his return. At the end of the separation, the groom would show up unannounced to take his bride home, but only after his father had given him permission to do so.

Yeshua has returned to Heaven and promises to return for His Bride. Yeshua will show up when we do not expect Him to do so, and only the Father in Heaven knows the date and time!

The Mikvah, A Sign, And The Return

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 – *“For Yeshua Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of Yahweh.”*

The bride now keeps herself pure while she waits for her husband-to-be to come back, for she is now considered to be “set apart”, “consecrated”, and “bought with a price”. Her **Mikvah** is her father’s home. She expects a **Sign**: her husband-to-be will come at midnight, or perhaps later in the night, and surprise her! And what a noisy celebration that is. The groom’s party arrives with loud shouts, often accompanied by the blowing of a shofar or trumpet. When the groom gets to his bride’s home, he will wait outside for the bride to join him.

When Yeshua returns, he will shout, the archangel will shout, and Yahweh’s voice will sound like a trumpet. Yeshua will not come all the way to the Earth, but will wait for us to join him in the clouds.

Once the groom and bride are together, they proceed to **Return** to the groom’s new home, which is the addition to the same home as his father’s. People would know that a wedding was in under way because of all the laughing and partying of the bridegroom and his friends as the veiled bride is “lifted up” and carried through the streets to her new home.

When the Bride of Christ is raptured, she meets Yeshua in the air, is covered by the clouds, and is taken to Heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

The Chuppah, The Ketubah, & The Concealment

Matthew 25:10 – *“The bridesmaids who were ready went in with the bridegroom to the wedding feast. Then the door was closed and locked.”*

The groom and bride go to his father's house and the wedding ceremony takes place under the **Chuppah** (marriage canopy). The Chuppah is generally open on all sides. The reading of the **Ketubah** text is given, outlining the groom's responsibilities – to provide his bride with her daily physical needs (daily bread) as well as her emotional needs. The couple is then concealed in the marital chamber. Once inside they shut and lock the doors and stay **Concealed** within for seven days.

In English thinking, we get the idea that you simply go into a bedroom and shut the door. However, in Hebrew, the picture is one of concealment – the husband and wife go into the chamber and are hidden away for seven days.

Matthew 25:10 tells us the door is *“closed and locked.”* **Isaiah 26:19-21** gives us the image of those who come into their chambers, *“lock the doors, and hide for a little while . . .”* This is repeated in Song of **Solomon 2:8 and 13:10** – *“My lover spoke and said to me, ‘Get up, my darling; let's go away, my beautiful one’.”*

These three patterns are perfect pictures of the concealment of the Bride of Christ in Heaven for seven years during the time of Yahweh/Yeshua's indignation or wrath (i.e.; the tribulation period).

The Revealing And The Marriage Supper


Revelation 19:7-10 – *“Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Yahweh, for the marriage of Yeshua has come and his wife has made herself ready. It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean . . . Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper . . .”*

At the end of the seven day period, after the concealment and consummation of the marriage, the husband and wife exit for the marriage supper or celebration meal. Everyone's works have been evaluated and rewarded at the Bema Seat of Yeshua. The husband brings forth his wife so that everyone can see her **Revealed**, and the **Marriage Supper** begins.

At the end of the tribulation period Yeshua will come with all His saints and every eye will see Heaven opened and his wife adorned in fine, pure, white linen! After the supper is over, both will reign throughout the millennial kingdom.

A scroll of parchment is unrolled, showing a central rectangular area that is blank and highlighted in a light beige color. The word "Conclusions" is written in a bold, orange, sans-serif font in the center of this highlighted area. The scroll is held by two wooden rollers with decorative metal caps. The background is a blurred image of the same scroll, showing faint, illegible text in a dark ink.

Conclusions



The Ten Commandments are indeed a list of do's and don'ts, a set of rules to live by, but are not a burden to bear. Just the opposite – they are a written testimony to the sacrament of marriage and are a joy and a gift of love from a husband to his wife, and from a wife to her husband.

The Gathering at Mount Sinai was clearly a wedding ceremony. That the Hebrews were called to be Yahweh's bride is attested to in many scriptures. Yahweh called the Hebrews to be his bride and he is their only true husband. After the Millennial Reign of Yeshua, the marriage between Yahweh and the Hebrews will be finalized. It is Yahweh who gave the Hebrews bread and water in the wilderness. It is Yahweh who calls the Hebrews his peculiar treasure, his Cēgullah, a kingdom of priests.

In heaven, after the resurrection, there will be no marriage between humans, just as there is no marriage between angels even now. Yeshua has called upon us to be his bride and he is our only true husband. The marriage between Yeshua and his bride will be finalized, and the marriage supper will be celebrated at his second coming. Yeshua is our living bread and our living water. Yeshua calls his bride a peculiar treasure, his Cēgullah, a kingdom of priests.

The Jewish Wedding Ceremony is, indeed a dress rehearsal for The Rapture. Yeshua came down from Heaven, gave his life as a ransom for his bride and offered her eternal life. He returned to heaven to prepare a place for his bride and will return to take her home. His return will be a noisy, celebratory event. The bride will be concealed while he pours out his wrath upon those still living upon the earth, culminating in his return, the revealing of his wife, and their millennial reign.



Q & A

Questions
and
Answers

Y'varekh'kha Yahweh v'yishmerekha

Ya'er Yahweh panav eleikha vichunekka

Yissa Yahweh panav eleikha v'yasem l'kha shalom

Yahweh blesses you, and keeps you;

Yahweh makes His face shine upon you, and is gracious to you;

Yahweh lifts up His countenance upon you, and makes you whole.

Thank You
for attending this
teaching about



Biblical Wedding Vows