



Preparation for

A Unique Wedding



A young man travelled to Australia. There, he met a young lady, whom he later asked to be his Fiancée. But when she wanted to learn more about him, she asked: what is your nationality? He replied: "It is none of your business."

- What is your Job?
- Don't ask me.
- Where will we live?
- I don't care!

She looked at him and thought "Truly, what a foolish person!"

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, came from His heaven to our earth, and asked us to be His fiancée. Now, what did He do to prepare us for this unique wedding?

First, He offered us a wedding ring. Look at your finger; you won't find a wedding ring! Because it is a unique ring, it wraps around our hearts, minds, and souls. The heavenly hosts are surely astonished, seeing this unique ring wrapped around us.

Second, what about His nationality? Moreover, where is He preparing to set the conjugal home? His answers are "I'm the heavenly One" and that He is preparing a place for all of us; it is the Father's bosom.

How does He prepare that? By hiding us in Himself. We enjoy the bosom of the Father as we are the body of the Incarnate Son of God.

How do we, the sinners, abide in the bosom of the Holy One? Since we are hidden in the heavenly Groom, the Father beholds us as a righteous bride. The Groom forgives us our daily sins and transgressions and grants us His righteousness.





Now, we are proud, for in our Groom we are not only blameless, but also holy and righteous. This is what the Lord meant from what He told His disciples before His betrayal:



“1 Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” (John 14:1-3)

Third, our Groom is busy and interested in the bride. He is preparing heaven to be the eternal conjugal home. What about us?

He sent His Holy Spirit to prepare us to be the heavenly bride. How?

1. He reveals the personality of the Groom, His mysteries, His richness, and His power. No creature can acknowledge this Groom or reveal His glory except the Holy Spirit.
2. The Holy Spirit beautifies the bride so that she may become an icon of her Groom. He always renews her nature.
3. The Holy Spirit pours the divine love for the Groom within us, that we may be very eager to be with Him. We say, **“Come quickly O Lord Jesus Christ.”**
4. The Holy Spirit dwells in the heart of the bride, as His own holy temple, accompanies her and guides her to enjoy the fellowship with her Groom, until the time she will see Him face to face.

**How wonderful is our Groom!
How lovely is our eternal conjugal home!
How powerful is the fiery love of the Holy Spirit!**



Fr. Tadros Y. Malaty

Feast of the Transfiguration
August 2020

