



Our last lesson in this study of the God of promises and covenants is a good time to look back, reflect on where we've been, and do our best to tie everything together in order to understand as much of the "big picture" of what God has accomplished for all of us as possible. Take a look at where we've been. How would you summarize the big idea of each one of our lessons in this study?

- ☀ 1: The God of Promises -
- ☀ 2: The God of Covenants -
- ☀ 3: The God Who Promises and Works to Defeat Death -
- ☀ 4: The God Who Has Set His Bow in the Cloud -
- ☀ 5: The God Who Made a Covenant with Abraham -
- ☀ 6: The God Who Made a Covenant with Israel -
- ☀ 7: The God Who Made a Promise to David -
- ☀ 8: The God Whose Heart is Grieved by Forsaken Covenants -
- ☀ 9: The God Who Promised a New & Better Covenant -
- ☀ 10: The God of Peace Who Establishes an Eternal Covenant -
- ☀ 11: The God Who Raises Us to Walk in Newness of Life -
- ☀ 12: The God Who Instituted the Covenant of Marriage -

As a conclusion to this series, listen carefully to what Ephesians 5:25-27 reveals about the ultimate purpose behind the sacrifice of Jesus and his relationship with his church.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ _____ the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to _____ in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

What do these God-breathed phrases from Ephesians 5:25-27 teach us?

☀ "that he might sanctify her" -

☀ "having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word" -

☀ "so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle" -

Alright, but **WHEN?** When is Christ going to "present the church to himself in splendor"?

What can we learn from these passages?

For I feel a divine _____ for you, since I _____ you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ. (2 Cor 11:2)

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to _____ you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, _____ indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister. (Col 1:21-23)

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

"Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory,

for the _____ of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"–

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the _____. (Rev 19:6-8)

He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am _____." Amen.

Come, Lord Jesus! (Rev 22:20)

☀ The God of promises and covenants has had an "eternal purpose" all along that has been "realized in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Eph 3:11). Passages like 1 Thessalonians 4:13-5:11 and 2 Peter 3:1-13 emphasize that Jesus is going to return for his bride. So how is God's great plan ultimately going to reach its conclusion? And what do we need to be doing in the meantime?