



## **CHRIST AND HIS BRIDE**

### 1. **Definition**

- To help us understand our relationship with our Groom (Jesus) we must understand the Jewish wedding as Jesus often uses it as an analogy of His wedding to us.

### 2. **Jewish wedding**

- Selection of the bride by the father. The father sends a trusted servant, "Agent of the Father," to search out the bride. – Gen 24; 1 Pt 1:8
- The price is established and agreed upon by the father and the son. – 1 Pt 1:18-19
- The bride and groom are betrothed (legally bound).
- The contract must be written. (Torah, Bible)
- The bride must give her consent. – Ex 19:8; Ex 24:3; Rom 10:9
- Gifts must be given and a cup shared. – Lk 22:17
- The bride must be cleansed in a Mikvah. – Ez 16:8-14; Ex 19:14; Lk 3:16; Acts 1:5
- The bridegroom departs to prepare a house for the bride. – Jhn 14:1-3
- The bride is consecrated (made holy, set aside, separated from the world). The groom's father gives permission for the son to go to the bride. – Mk 13:32; 2 Pet 3:10
- The shofar is blown. The bridegroom returns with a shout, "Behold, the bridegroom comes!" and "Blessed is he who comes!" - Mat 25:6; 23:39; 1 Cor 15:52
- The bridegroom abducts the bride for seven days. – Joel 2:16
- The marriage supper for all. The guests are invited by the father of the bride. A friend of the bridegroom relays the news. Jhn 3:29

### 3. **Summary**

**Jesus is preparing for us**