

WEDDING DRESS

Did you know that virtually every time the return of Christ is mentioned in the New Testament (as in “the day of the Lord,” “that day,” “the great day,” “our blessed hope,” etc.) each passage is usually accompanied by strong warnings about the need to live holy, productive lives for Christ?

Imagine a bride in a beautiful white wedding gown, who remembers just hours before her wedding that she had forgotten to get the oil changed in their car for the long honeymoon trip. She's at her parent's house and decides to take the car to her dad's garage and change the oil herself. She foolishly thinks that if she is very careful she can change the oil in her wedding dress. You can imagine the outcome. She gets oil platters all over the dress.

Now, fast forward; how will she feel walking down the aisle of the church with everyone staring at those glaring stains on her dress? Can you imagine how heart broken the groom will feel seeing his bride-to-be coming down the aisle? This is almost exactly the image scripture implores us to use for when we as believers are presented to Christ in Heaven “as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.” (Ephesians 5:27).

In Revelation 3:4 Jesus says, “Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy.” Oh to be found worthy on that day! When we come before the Lord with all the eyes of Heaven upon us we don't want to come with the oil stains of sin. In ways we can't imagine, the church getting married to the Son of the living God is an eternally big deal.