

# Marriage



## MARRIAGE PART 9 - THE BRIDAL GARMENTS 2

In part 8 we looked at the first of the wedding garments which we must have on, if we are to be His bride, the garment of righteousness. We then looked at what it meant for the bride to make herself ready and what that means.

We said there is an INNER life process of being made ready and there is an EXTERNAL life process of being made ready.

The INNER life is about the sanctification of our inner most being by the Spirit and faith in the truth. In other words the life of Christ being formed within us, maturing us into the full stature of Christ.

In this message we are going to look at the EXTERNAL life process, which relates to the bride being given a fine linen garment, which are the righteous acts or works she has accomplished in Him and through Him, while she has lived on earth.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: THE BRIDE IS NOT MADE READY IN HEAVEN BUT ON EARTH.**

The **second garment** is the garment of **righteous acts**.

*Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.*

*Revelation 22:12 "Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done."*

It's essential that we grasp the magnitude of all this through the Spirit revealing it in and to us.

**Q. What are these good works which we have been created to accomplish, which is our fine linen garment?**

It's important to note that only those who do these good works will receive this bridal garment. This is why not everyone will be the bride of Christ, because not everyone lives a faithful and obedient life in Christ.

**Q. So what are these righteous acts or works of the saints?**

It's important to note that these righteous acts or works are of fellowship and function, to which they are all anchored, inspired, led and empowered by the Spirit.

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The RIGHTEOUS ACTS or WORKS of FELLOWSHIP are...

1. To believe who He is

***John 6:29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."***

Now when we say believe, we mean to receive a living conviction in ones heart, which produces His life in us and has us moving in a completely different direction than before. We don't mean having an intellectual agreement through human learning.

2. To believe in what He says.

***John 14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works.***

3. To believe in what He does.

***John 14:11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves.***

The RIGHTEOUS ACTS or WORKS of FUNCTION are...

1. To love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

***Mark 12:28-30 One of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well, asked Him, "What commandment is the foremost of all?" Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'***

2. To love humanity as He loves us.

***John 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.***

3. To demonstrate the wisdom of God.

***Matthew 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo,***



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***"I am with you always, even to the end of the age."***

***John 14:12 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater than these he will do; because I go to the Father.***

All of these righteous acts or works, whether of fellowship or function, are to be accomplished by faith in Jesus Christ.

***Hebrews 11:32-33 And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed acts of righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions.***

Anything less than this and this is a work of flesh, which is demonic, no matter how good they may be. These good works are burnt up and are nothing to God, because they do not come from God, but the flesh.

It is essential, in fact critical, that we all flow in these righteous works that we have mentioned here, if we are going to be His bride.

In part 10 we will look at why these righteous acts are the evidence of us being ready.

## **QUESTIONS**

1. What has been your understanding of the fine linen garment to date?
2. How important is our fellowship with God when it comes to these righteous works/acts, and why?
3. What is it that makes a righteous act/work a righteous act/work and not just a good work, and why is this so important?
4. Why is it critical we are accomplishing these righteous acts in our lives?

Watch the accompanying You Tube videos here: <https://youtu.be/zrYCpncCO7Y>