Having a Covenant Marriage Sunday October 13, 2024 Dr. Pete Norris

Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said: "So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest,' " although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. **(Hebrews 4:1-3 NKJV)**

In the Old Covenant the Promised Land was a piece of real estate. In the New Covenant, according to Hebrews, the Promised Land is rest in the finished work of Christ.

And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: **(Ephesians 2:6 KJV)**

The location of this new heavenly land is in Christ.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: **(Ephesians 1:3 KJV)**

Blessing in Greek is "Eulogia." This is the English word Eulogy. Eulogy is something that you say over somebody that is dead.

God has pronounced death over you who were in Adam.

For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. (Colossians 3:3 KJV)

Hid means "to conceal."

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. **(Galatians 2:20 NKJV**)

Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. (Romans 6:6 NKJV)

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings is to search out a matter. **(Proverbs 25:2 KJV)**

The heavenly is a life in Christ.

Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: **(Colossians 1:12, 13 KJV)**

Never again will you be called "The Forsaken City" or "The Desolate Land." Your new name will be "The City of God's Delight" and "The Bride of God," for the lord delights in you and will claim you as his bride. **(Isaiah 62:4 NLT)**

The New Covenant is my marriage contract. It is what gives me the right to be intimate with Him. If I am not married to Him already, it is not legal to be intimate with Him and it is illegal to use His name. The Old Covenant was the marriage certificate that kept me bound to Adam.

Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man. Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. **(Romans 7:1-4 KJV)**

But now that our first Adam is dead, we are free to be married to another.

"For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ."

II Corinthians 11:2 NKJV

"I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me In righteousness and justice, In lovingkindness and mercy;" **(Hosea 2:19 NKJV)**

And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? **(Matthew 19:5 KJV)**

When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. **(John 19:26, 27 KJV)**

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? (Matthew 27:46 KJV)

The death of Christ got rid of my old husband and the resurrection of Christ gave birth to my new husband. I do not think it is an accident that the first Adam in the garden was put into a deep sleep and his side opened and a rib was taken from his side to bring forth a bride. The last Adam was about to have the spear of a Roman Soldier pierce His side out of which would flow blood and water that would bring forth His bride without spots and wrinkles.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. **(Ephesians 5:25-27 KJV)**

Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, I will get me to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense. Thou art all fair, my love; there is no spot in thee. **(Song of Solomon 4:6, 7 KJV)**