



The Rapture; Interim Body Recognizable, Lk 16:19-31; No Marriage in Heaven, Mt 22:24-32; Couples Fulfilling the Corporate Testimony Receive Joint Escrow

That people will be recognizable is evident from the passages in the Gospels that document the post-resurrection encounters of the Lord with His disciples. We also know that believers are recognizable in interim bodies from passages that refer to Paradise, such as the account of the rich man identifying Lazarus and Abraham in Paradise from his location in Torments: Luke 16:19-31.

We are able to get some insight about married couples in heaven from a debate the Lord had with some Sadducees. This group did not believe in life after death. They hoped to trap the Lord by asking what they believed to be an inscrutable question based on a passage from Deuteronomy 25:5:

Matthew 22:24 - "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies, having no children, his brother as next of kin shall marry his wife, and raise up an offspring to his brother.'

v. 25 - "Now there were seven brothers with us; and the first married and died, and having no offspring left his wife to his brother;

v. 26 - so also the second, and the third, down to the seventh.

v. 27 - "And last of all, the woman died.

v. 28 - "In the resurrection therefore whose wife of the seven shall she be? For they all had her."

v. 29 - But Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, or the power of God.

v. 30 - "For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

v. 31 - "But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read that which was spoken to you by God, saying,

v. 32 - 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living."

The question was rendered inconsequential. Marriage is shown to be a relationship instituted by God as a means of resolving the angelic conflict. Primary is the relationship between the husband and the wife in a Christian marriage which is to coordinate a relationship that is reflective of the Lord's love for the church and the church's subordination to the Lord.

In addition, during the Church Age the body of Christ is enlarged by procreation of children which are most efficiently brought into the royal family of God by the evangelism of Christian parents.

Angels do not marry because the number of angels was set at their creation. There is no need for them to procreate and therefore no necessity for marriage.

Since the number which completes the body of Christ is also a set number, once it is completed through human procreation on earth there is no further need for it in heaven.



However, we may conclude from our passages that right man and right woman will be able to recognize each other in heaven since their resurrection bodies will look exactly like their earthly bodies.

It is assumed that the age that one appears to be in his resurrection body will be that of a 33-year old since this was the age of Christ at His death and our resurrection bodies will be just like His.

Further, we learn from David that He will be reunited with His son in heaven and it is not a stretch to conclude that we will have fellowship with all our other family members who are believers on their arrival in heaven.

During the Millennial kingdom we will enjoy the perfect environment of Planet Earth in perfect resurrection bodies, one of the blessings of which will be times of fellowship and rapport with those loved ones who have gone before, including wife or wives, husband or husbands.

Further, since the Christian marriage is a mystery doctrine that is fulfilled by a man and woman in a corporate marriage then they will be corporately rewarded at the Royal Award Ceremonies of the Evaluation Tribunal of Christ.

9. The corporate marriage itself is a mystery doctrine. In no other dispensation is the divine institution of marriage given the obligation to become a corporate witness to the world by illustrating the relationship between Jesus Christ and His church and between the church and Christ.
10. The Lord has taken the responsibility of being the Leader of the church which includes her provision, protection, and guidance which is accomplished by His faithfulness.
11. In the mystery of the corporate marriage the husband is delegated the authority of leadership in the household and his responsibilities include provision, protection, and guidance from his knowledge of the Word.