

The Woman of Revelation/ The Last Day Church (1)

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June 3, 2003 (1-2)

SIGNS AND SYMBOLS USED BY THE LORD. Of all that the Lord uses in the Word, there is none more significant to the Church of today than these used in Revelation Chapter twelve. All three significant symbols are objects of beauty and wonder, as is the woman herself. She is not only clothed with the beauty of the Lord, she is the most beautiful of all of His creation. This woman is the Bride of Christ. Rev. 12:1 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. She is totally His. Their love is full and complete. A love that cannot exist outside of the Lord. John 3:29 The church teaches that there will be a marriage in the end of the age between Christ and His church. It is time that we begin to identify her and prepare ourselves to be a part of that glorious organism. Some will not understand this statement, but, far more important than the Second Coming of Christ is the Marriage of the Lamb. The marriage is the next great event on the calendar of the Lord. Are you ready? The Bride will have made herself ready. Too many have only an indifferent understanding of the plan of the Lord for His church. Rev. 19:7.

ESPOUSED TO ONE HUSBAND. The vision of the Apostle Paul went beyond the churches of that time and embraced that which was to come in the end of the age. A chaste virgin. 2 Cor. 11:2 A woman sanctified and purified by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. A body of believers in whom the Lord has completed His work of perfection. A people made like unto Himself in every aspect of all things Spiritual. A husband and wife of perfect love, perfect accord, identical in their holiness and purity. This event is not timed to take place after the coming of Christ but is to precede His glorious coming. The Lord will accomplish that which pertains to His purpose for His church. Ps. 138:8 The greatest of all love was manifest in the sacrifice of Himself, by the Lord Jesus, for His church. Eph. 5:25 He laid down His life for those who were dear and precious to Him, his friends. Those who are identified by their willingness to be obedient to Him and His Word. There never has been nor will there ever be a love such as this, it is

eternal and absolute. John 15:13-14 So close an attachment exist between the Lord and His friends that there are no hidden secrets. The complete revelation of the Lord exists in the Bride. She knows very well His actions for the end of the age. John 15:15 The greatest, the most outstanding mystery relates to Christ and His church. It is found in the scripture in type, symbol, parable and revelation. It is the most open secret in existence. The fruit of the consummation of the marriage of Christ and His church is the most precious event to be found in the Word. From the ages of eternity the wonder, the great portent made visible in Revelation twelve has been the predetermined plan and purpose of the Lord. There never has been a woman which compares to the Bride of Christ. She will satisfy the heart of the Son of the Most High. She will be the perfect, eternal companion for Him. She will be brought into being and will be most fruitful in producing a race which is eternal. Rev. 12:5

WHO THE WOMAN COULD NOT BE. The negative involves both Israel and Mary, neither of whom could be this gorgeous woman. The opening statement negates the possibility of either of them being the precious woman of Revelation twelve. Note the time related statements, the time is at hand. The statement has a future tense to it, something which was not to be associated to the past. At his period of time, both Israel and Mary were history. Rev. 1:1 Secondly, the book states that the time is at hand. Thus placing it in the future, something which had not yet been accomplished. Rev. 1:3 Thirdly, current events relating to the time of the giving of the revelation are admissible, plus once again the future. The things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter.\ Rev. 1:19 Fourthly, the things of the future are greatly emphasized. Things which must be hereafter. Rev. 4:1 Fifthly, The events of the book are related to be things which must shortly be done.\” Then in the conclusion, the declaration is, for the time is at hand.\” Rev. 22:10 None of these time involving declarations in any way refer or hint of things that connect to the past. The angel of the revelation came with the message that was directed to the churches which only came into existence after the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Rev. 22:16 Neither Israel or Mary begin to compare to the glory and majesty that is manifest in this woman, who is the perfected church in the end of the age. Eph. 5:26 Certainly this volume of witness and testimony would preclude the sun clad woman from being either Israel or Mary.

HE WILL CREATE A CHURCH OF HIS GLORY. Not a forced situation but developed by love, the Word and the Spirit. A company of people who possess the same glory that is frequently revealed as being the mighty presence of the Lord. Eph. 5:27 She is known as the heavenly Jerusalem, in contrast to that which is earthly. The heavenly is acknowledged as the CITY of the living God. This is the city which Abraham desired in all of his travels. It is acknowledged to be the city of the firstborn. First of all the city of the Lord Jesus Christ. Secondly the city of the redeemed whose names are recorded in the book of eternal life. It is an enigma that men would seek after that which is natural and earthly when that which is eternal and Spiritual is proffered. Heb. 12:22-23 She, and she alone is termed the Holy City. Only one city suitable to receive such a title and that is the New Jerusalem. we need to stress and place great emphases on the fact that it is the NEW JERUSALEM which is the eternal abode of the Lord. She is a prepared Bride with a standard that is exceedingly high and holy. Dressed in the most gorgeous wedding garb that ever existed. Adorned to please her husband. Her clothing, her demeanor, her spirit and dedication are all extremely pleasing to the one who so greatly loves her. The one who purchased her with the supreme sacrifice of laying aside His Godhood to become a man. Then to offer Himself as the supreme sacrifice and offering in order to purchase her. The manifestation of supreme love. Acts 20:28

June 4, 2003 (3)

THE REVELATION OF THE LAST DAY CHURCH. This the consummation of two thousand years of the Gospel or church dispensation. The climax of the work of the Spirit. The ultimate handiwork of the Lord. As Eve, the mother of all living was taken from the side of the First Adam, so this true mother of all who possess eternal life is taken from the side of the last Adam. That Adam, the Lord Jesus, who is the beginning of a new race, a spiritual culture of beings who have life everlasting. They have been made alive by the quickening Spirit of the true Adam. The first Adam being a prototype of that which is authentic. 1 Cor. 15:45 As the first, was fruitful and multiplied so it is with the last. The new heavens and the new earth will be occupied.

FROM HIS SIDE. God performed the very first surgery by causing Adam to fall into a deep sleep (under the power of the Spirit). He then

removed a rib as a foundation for his help meet, Eve. She was indeed flesh of his flesh and bone of his bones. She was formed or made by the Lord Himself, no doubt building into her those qualities which pleased Him and which would be desired for the bride of Christ, for the Bride is likewise of Him. Eph. 5:30 We too are born of blood, water and Spirit, that which flowed from His pierced side. John 19:34 Jesus came with a full witness of that which produces true life in men, eternal life. These three elements are the heart of salvation, lacking the workings of any of them in our lives we come short of pleasing the Lord. 1 John 5:6 They perform the salvation of the Lord in perfect accord. 1 John 5:8

BEGOTTEN OF GOD. Born of water, blood and Spirit. Uniquely born and created into the being and image of the Almighty. Amazing, the power of the Lord in taking a piece of trash, the sinner, and making of it the most beautiful of creatures. The church as she will see in the looking glass, the Word of the Lord, the beauty which is prepared for her will possess a strong desire to be made like Him. The Lord has promised that there will be a work of transformation into the very same image, the same likeness, the express nature and character. 2 Cor. 3:18 A Spirit filled church will always be in the process of change, from glory to glory. Progressing and growing in the knowledge and wisdom of the Word. As in the natural, knowledge properly applied produces growth and maturity, so in the Spiritual, increased understanding and enlightenment will lead to perfection in Christ. This woman is most important to the Lord Jesus. He loves her with the love of very God Himself and gave of Himself for her. Eph. 5:25 He saw in her the diamond of eternity, the pearl of the ages and so greatly desired her that He was willing to give His very lives blood in order to purchase her and bring her unto Himself. Acts 20:28 Of a certainty there is no greater love than this. He has made her to be absolutely the most valuable item that has ever been purchased on earth. There has never been a greater price paid for any commodity. That is real love.

June 5, 2003 (4)

THE SCRIPTURES EXTENSIVELY USE TYPE AND SYMBOL. Many of the precious things of the Word are couched in this manner. Purposely the Lord has hidden these precious truths that He might reveal them to His own. Prov. 25:2 The great mystery of Revelation twelve is the woman.

Yet, the Word abounds with choice examples of the Bride of Christ who is this extraordinary woman. From the very beginning, With Eve, the mother, the life giver. To the gorgeous Queen of Psalms forty-five. The woman of perfect virtue and works of Proverbs thirty-one. The wives of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. For that matter almost every woman mentioned in the Bible in one way or another exemplifies the woman who will be the Bride of the Lord Jesus. She is amply portrayed and foreshadowed to those who look for her. She is that glorious church of Ephesians five-twenty seven. She is that majestically illuminated city, filled with all the light of the glory of the Lord. Shining, scintillating, glowing like one colossal diamond with the eternal glory of the Lord God Almighty, He who is the very essence of light. Rev. 21:11

THE ARCHITECT AND BUILDER OF THE CHURCH IS THE LORD. The creator and artist who created Eve was the Lord Himself. She was not spoken into existence but carefully and wondrously shaped and formed by the very loving hands of the Everlasting Father. Taken from Adam, a relationship and a kinship of the closes kind. In a very beautiful way, she was born of the man, so the church of the Lord. Born of the Word, born of the Spirit. Taken from Jesus ever and indelibly to be a part of Him. Effectively, deliberately the Lord Jesus is shaping and forming His Bride. She is constructed on this rock, not Peter (the pebble), but upon Christ the rock of the Lord. The spiritual Rock which accompanied the children of Israel in their wilderness journey. The Rock identified as being Christ. 1 Cor. 10:4 To Israel He was the source of life sustaining waters. To the Bride He is the occupant of the true temple of the Lord. Eph. 2:22 He will dwell in His fullness and completeness in the Bride in these last days. This is the Divine reason for the existence of the church. He is desirous of her being His and His alone. He longs for her absolute attention and love. The woman was created from the man, for the man, therefore is of the man, so likewise the Bride. 1 Cor. 11:8-9 The woman is to be the glory of the man, whatever that may be taken to mean in the natural its spiritual implications are tremendous. 1 Cor. 11:7 The destiny of the Bride is to be the crown jewel of the whole of the plan of salvation. The grand and glorious plan of the Lord was to find a redeemed people who would dedicate themselves whole heartedly to the Lord. From the vision which He gave to John on Patmos it is very evident that He will find those, however many or few, who will measure up to the requirements for purity and holiness, to be members of the Bride of Christ. Whether we

like it or not, absolute conformity to the Word of the Lord is necessary to be a part of that Bride.

June 6, 2003 (5)

STANDING ON THE MOON. Her foundation steadfast and strong. There is no footing which is as assuring and certain. There is no other foundation but the Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 3:11 He is the stone, the basis of truth and righteousness. Rejected indeed, of men but chosen and precious of God. Jesus is the only foundation, the only headstone. Acts 4:11 The moon is a most interesting satellite of our earth. In its natural order there is much about it which mirrors the Lord Jesus. FOR INSTANCE, scientist have a theory that it originated from the earth, having been cast off and spun into space. That would certainly speak to us of Christ the rejected one. IT IS A DEAD BODY. Having the same basic composition as the earth. Jesus became like us that He might save us from our sins. Reminding us of the death of our Lord Jesus. Basically, every month it waxes and wanes, or passes through phases where it is full and then dark. Dying and then coming to life, like the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. No wonder David said, that, the heavens declare the glory of God. Every day and every night the works of the Lord are proclaimed in the heavens. Ps. 19:1-4.

PROPHETICALLY, THE MOON IS TO BECOME BLOOD, BEFORE THE SECOND COMING OF THE LORD JESUS. Please note carefully that the WORD SAYS, that BEFORE the great and notable day of the Lord the moon will be turned into blood. Joel 2:31 Peter repeated this statement in Acts 2:20 This is an event which will take place under the opening of the sixth seal. Rev. 6:12 Wherever one places the Second Coming of Christ, this is an event which must precede it. It is one of the last witnesses and testimonies, of which there are many, that will be as warnings to the world that cataclysmic events are in order and it is high time to repent. Jesus when asked about the signs of His coming, gave a darkened moon as one of the signs and placed the event as immediately after the tribulation. Mt. 24:29 In the following verse He stated that, THEN would appear the sign of His coming. Also that all the peoples of the earth would see the Son of man COMING IN THE CLOUDS. v.30 The trumpet will sound, and His angels will then gather His elect from the face of the whole earth. v. 31 It is so obvious that He is speaking of the moment of His glorious coming. GRAVITY

MAINTAINS THE MOON IN ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE EARTH. Amazingly, while there is a pull from the earth on the moon, the moon likewise exerts a gravitational pull on the earth creating the tides that ebb and flow. Which in turn affect the weather of the earth. THE MOON IS SCARED AND POCKMARKED. Isaiah said that His visage was marred more than any man. Isa. 52:14 With the smiting of His face and the plucking of His beard that went on at the time of His crucifixion there is no question but what He was horribly beaten and marked. He suffered more than any other has ever suffered. It was not only physical but deeply spiritual.

June 9, 2003 (6)

HEAVENLY SIGNS AND WITNESSES. The sun, moon and stars were created for light, for signs, for seasons, for days and for years, In other words for the establishment and measurement of time. Gen. 1:14 Prophetically we have noted that they will be very prominent in announcing and warning concerning the end of the age. It may be well to insert here another event which is momentous in relation to the light bearing bodies and their signaling of catastrophes to come.

THE WORK OF THE DRAGON (SATAN). There is seen, standing before the woman of Revelation twelve an enormous beast, called a dragon, which is one of the names applied to the devil. He has purposed to destroy the offspring of the woman at its birth, but the Lord will deliver the child. What we want to see here is the effect that the dragon has on the stars of heaven. He will sweep one-third of them from their position and cast them to the earth, and in this manner destroy them. These stars represent Christians who become enamored with the antichrist. People who follow the cult of man, following signs and wonders, and worship man rather than the Lord. Rev. 12:4 This is the beginning of the tribulation. The other bad omen which will signal the beginning of the tribulation is the partial darkness that will strike the universe at this same time. Along with one-third of the stars being effected, one-third of the sun and one-third of the moon will be darkened. Also one-third of the day and one-third of the night will be in total darkness. This darkness will be like that of Egypt, awe striking and fearful. Rev. 8:12 These are signs of impending catastrophes that beggar description, though they are recorded here in the book of Revelation. The tribulation period will not be the casual time which

some make it out to be. It will be a time of extreme judgments and sorrows, described as a time of trouble such as never has been nor ever will be.

THE LESSER LIGHT WAS TO RULE THE NIGHT. The moon to reflect the light of the greater light and lighten the earth. The sun never ceases to shine on the moon, only the shining side is not always visible to us. Gen. 1:19 Jesus is that light which shines in the darkness, illuminating all who will receive His light. John 1:5 Jesus came acknowledging the Father and declaring the Father to be greater than He. The lesser light, confessing the greater light. John 14:28 Light dispels darkness, the two cannot occupy the same area at one and the same time. Light always wins. Jesus came, as light in order to dispel darkness. Men refuse light because they love darkness and light exposes their evil deeds. John 3:19 Jesus is indeed the light of the world. He is the light of life. All natural life is sustained by light. Nothing can live where there is no light. How much the natural every day things teach us spiritual lessons, would we but open our eyes and see the witness and testimony with which the Lord has so abundantly surrounded us.

June 10, 2003 (7)

THE RELIGIOUS YEAR WAS BASED ON THE LUNAR YEAR. The New Moon was the beginning of the Sabbatical month. It was a day for rejoicing, festivity and thanksgiving. The trumpets were to be sounded proclaiming a New Month. Num.10:10 A new beginning, a new life, like in Christ, who makes all things NEW. Rev. 21:5 THE TIME OF THE FEAST OF PASSOVER AND UNLEAVENED BREAD WERE DETERMINED BY THE PHASE OF THE MOON. The full moon in particular. Num. 28:16-18. This is greatly significant inasmuch as Christ is our Passover. 1 Cor. 5:7 The moon was at the peak of its brilliancy at the Time of Christ's death, burial and resurrection. THE TIME OF THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES WAS ACCORDING TO THE STAGE OF THE MOON. Starting with the new moon on the first day of the seventh month to the fifteenth day, the full moon, and the commencement of the Feast of Tabernacles it was a time of great festivity. It was harvest time, the gathering of the general harvest of the land. Lev. 23:24-33 This is the one feast that as yet is unfulfilled in a Spiritual sense in the church. It represents the great outpouring of the Spirit and the perfection of the church in the end of the age. Passover, foreshadowed

or redemption by the blood of Jesus. Pentecost, the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Tabernacles, the time when the promises of the Lord to dwell in His people, in His fullness will be accomplished. The moon was and certainly is not to be worshipped in any way but it was directly connected to their time and order of worship. The moon, indeed was for times, signs and seasons.

REFERENCES MADE TO THE MOON PORTRAYING CHRIST. How beautifully true, in His days the righteous will flourish, or break forth as a bud or bloom. Wherever Christ is exalted there is to be found great fruitfulness and spiritual growth. Peace to be in great abundance in the heart and life of those who are His. He is enduring and everlasting and so the moon is depicted as having the same attribute. (Margin, until there be no moon.) While the type will cease, Christ will continue eternally, He will outlast that which is created. Ps. 72:7 He is established, permanent, immovable, eternal and everlasting and the moon represents that faithfulness. It is the sure, the faithful witness established in the sky. Ps. 89:37 His testimony of truth and faithfulness is from everlasting to everlasting. It is stipulated that He is the faithful and true witness. The very beginning of the creation of the Lord. Rev. 3:14 The Lord uses types, shadows and parables to illustrate Bible truths. These were a shadow of the things to come, the reality, however, is found in Christ. Col. 2:17 NIV. The Book of Revelation is filled with just that sort of pictorial language and is best explained by searching the Scriptures and noting that which is recorded in the volume of the Book. The Bride will be built on a foundation of truth and righteousness. It is rock solid, unchanging and as steadfast as the Lord Himself.

June 11, 2003 (8)

THE SUN CLAD WOMAN. There never has been nor will there ever be a Bride more beautifully clothed than this woman. Our sun is our source of natural life. It is just as simple as no sun, no life. All life exists and is sustained by the sun. While our sun is not the largest in the universe by any means, it is to us the great light, and as such is a type of the Father. The scripture goes so far as to say that the LORD, Jehovah, is a sun. Just as certainly as God is a Spirit, John 4:24, and God is light, 1 John 1:5, and God is love, 1 John 4:16 all of which help explain His being and nature, for He is literally, positively, precisely what the Word

says He is. He is light, He is the light and blazing glory of our sun. Light exists because He who is light, created, the light which is in our sun as light for this earth. Gen. 1:3 He used His light to dispel the darkness which ruled this earth. The very first act of light was to disperse darkness, what a beautiful type of salvation. The light bearing bodies were not created until the fourth day, four being the number of the earth. The light which He had created as a symbol and type of Himself He then placed in all the suns in the universe. Yes, He is a sun. Shining forth the greatest of all lights. Ps. 84:11

WERE WE TO SEE THE LORD, WHAT WOULD WE SEE? We would see a being of light. The greatest light which can be seen in the whole of the universe. The Lord, Himself is our everlasting light. A light that cannot go out nor can it be extinguished. A sun which will never set, for He is eternal light. Isa. 60:19-20 He lives and dwells in unapproachable light, light so strong and brilliant that man in his sinful state could not stand to be in His glorious presence. 1 Tim. 6:16 The robe of the Lord is light, He is thoroughly wrapped and surrounded with that brilliant light. Laser light cannot begin to compare to the Lord of light. Ps. 104:2 If the Lord is so beautifully arrayed, then most certainly the garment of the Bride will be of the same magnificent cloth. What a beauty she will be. Ezekiel, under the inspiration of the Spirit saw the brightness of the Lords glory\” as it filled the court of the temple. Eze. 10:4 Baptism into Christ means that we have put on Christ. Gal. 3:27 If we have put on Christ, we than have become what He is, for we are clothed with Him. He is the brightness, the effulgence, the shining forth of the glory of the Lord. He is what His Father is. Bearing the identical image and likeness, the attributes and the character of His Father. Heb. 1:3 The precise representative of His Father. So much so, that He was able to say that if any man had seen Him, Jesus, He had seen the Father. Did that make Him the Father, no of course not, but He did bear the complete and identical presence of His Father. John 14:9 Clothed completely with the eternal glory of the Living Lord. The promise of the Word is that as He is, so are we in this world. 1 John 4:17 The woman is so involved and intertwined with Christ that she has lost her own identity has become completely what He is. What an amazing, marvelous transformation the true church will experience in these last day. Thrilling beyond words. Correction to Woman 7. First paragraph, line eight. Should be Leviticus 23:

June 12, 2003 (9)

SUN CLAD BECAUSE SHE IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. When addressing His disciples Jesus proclaimed that they would receive the responsibility of being the true light of the Lord, to the world. Mt. 5:14 The redeemed, having been born of He who is the light, are made to be children of light, therefore shine as the light in the midst of darkness. 1 Thes. 5:5 In revealing the language of the symbol in the book of Revelation, the Lord Jesus determined the Pastors of the seven churches to be stars. Every star blazing brilliantly in the heavens is a sun. The seven churches themselves were the flames of the seven branched candlestick. The light of the glory of the Lord glowed in those who followed Him. The prophet Malachi foretold of the coming of the Lord Jesus by calling Him the SUN of righteousness, not only is He the SON of God but He is His own rights a SUN. A shining, blazing, glowing orb of heavenly light showing forth in the darkness. He is the Son of His Father therefore it is no wonder if we find the same attributes manifest in Him as seen in the Father. Mal. 4:2 In Jesus is found the glow of the righteousness of the living God. The path which He prepared for those who are His, is similar to the rising of the sun, and the rays proceeding from between mountain tops announcing its rising. Then the full bursting forth of the glories of the dawn and the new day. Prov. 4:18

THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF THE WOMAN IS BEYOND DESCRIPTION. The woman is not suddenly clothed with the sun and then carried away. She will be clothed and filled with the fullness of the glory of the Lord for approximately a year. The perfection of every spiritual benefit and exercise will be known in her during that period of time. She will be in the midst of a move of the Spirit such as never has been seen in the earth. The call of the Spirit is heard calling her to arise, to be stirred and enter into the blessings of the Lord for the Bride. Isa. 60:1 Again the call is issued in Isa. 52:1 To awake, spoken twice to emphasize the importance of the command. They are to put on the garment of beauty and shine with the eternal glory of the Lord. The moment for the glory of the Lord to be manifest in them has arrived. A time of gross spiritual darkness enshrouding the earth when suddenly this woman of beauty and splendor will break forth on the scene. His glory has come and is now to be made manifest in His very own. The multitudes of the unsaved will flock to the Lord under the tremendous double, later rain

of the Spirit of the Lord. She will be radiant, her heart thrilled and rejoicing in seeing the multitudes coming to the Lord. Isa. 60:2-5 The full strength of the Lord will be hers. The unrighteous, the unholy will no more be seen in her. She is now the city of purity. This is the true Holy City. The Zion of the Lord. The Spiritual, eternal city which is the everlasting Temple of the Lord Almighty. She is the New Jerusalem, the city which will glow like the Sun and have all the attributes of the Lord Himself.

June 13, 2003 (10)

TO SHINE BRIGHT, LIVE RIGHT. Jesus warned of a season when there would be a time of division in His kingdom. Once again it is a situation of the chaff with the wheat, and the tares remaining with the wheat until the moment of weeding out. This moment is aptly portrayed in the Word. After the cleansing, then the righteous Bride will shine as the sun. Mt. 13:41-43 Judgment must first begin at the house of the Lord. Those who know the right way bear more responsibility than those who do not. 1 Pet. 4:17 The wise, in knowledge and obedience to the Word of the Lord, living and manifesting the righteousness of the Lord, will shine as the heavens and the stars. Dan. 12:3 In the resurrection and the life to come there are differences of the shining forth of the glories of the resurrection. Some will be clothed with the outstanding glory of the sun. Others the moon glory. Still others with the glory of the stars and with the great variety of splendor that is seen among the stars. 1 Cor. 15:41 Not all will have the same glory or position in eternity. Just as there will be some who occupy the throne with the Lord, some are seated on thrones around His throne, and there are others who stand before the throne. The Bride of the Lord Jesus seated with Him on His thrones will glow with the shekinah glory of the Lord.

EZEKIEL SPOKE OF HIS VISION OF THE LORD OF GLORY. He saw a throne which appeared to be occupied by a man. The throne itself was beautiful and glorious and was like unto a sapphire stone, the azure blue of the sky. Which incidentally is the color of the Holy Spirit. The LORD, Himself look as if He was a burning, blazing fire, and why not? For our God is a consuming fire. Heb. 12:29 He is not the fire which we use for heating and cooking, but is a spiritual, eternal flame of glory. Destructive, devouring and yet not all consuming. Doing no

harm, but destroying the chaff of ones life. He is the one who baptizes with Spirit and with fire. Mt. 3:11 Who will dwell eternally with such flame and fire? The answer is, the righteous. As the sun is an orb of intense heat and flame so the eternal kingdom of God will be a sphere of the might and flaming power of the Spirit. Isa. 33:14-16 Ezekiel saw the brilliancy of the God of fire and light. Eze. 1:27 The eyes of the Lord Jesus are described by John as being like blazing fire and His feet like glowing brass heated in a furnace. Rev. 1:14-15 We are not considering an element which is to be harmful in any way to those who walk with the Lord, but rather an exciting use of the language of the symbol describing the exceeding great glory which will be manifest in the Lord Jesus and that which clothes His Bride. There is another manifestation of His glory and fire which is not at all comforting and that is the time of His visitation to this earth, a second time. He is coming in great fire executing vengeance on all who do not know the Lord and who are not willing to acknowledge Him as the Lord of lords and the King of kings. The second coming of Christ is not a casual event but the greatest catastrophe ever to strike his earth. It is total and complete judgment. 2 Thes. 1:7-10

June 16, 2003 (11)

WHO IS THIS? YES, WHO IS THIS? It behooves every Christian to know and understand just exactly who she is. She is coming from the wilderness or the desert place. Prophetically, according to the schedule of the Lord this woman who was delivered by the Lord and concealed in the wilderness, Rev. 12:6, is now returning from the wilderness. Song 6:10 What majesty, what beauty is upon her. She is glorious and shining like the dawn of a new and bright sunlit day. She is as beautiful as the moon reflecting the light of the sun. As Christ who is the distinct radiance of His Fathers glory. She is as pure, as choice as the sun. One to be desired and longed after for she is completely emptied of self, and filled with Christ, her beloved. She is as awesome as a mighty army with banners. Because of the radiance that is upon her she strikes fear into the heart of her enemies. She is a great and mighty army, in absolute unity as they march. Her foes are to be pitied. She is the army of the Lord. Joel 2, Rev. 19:11-16

COMING FROM THE WILDERNESS. Coming like pillars of smoke. Smoke accompanies and is the result of fire. The mighty presence of

the Lord on Sinai had the appearance of fire and smoke, concealing the glory of the presence of the Lord. Ex. 19:18 The same manifestation is evidenced in judgment. The visitation of the Lord in sentencing Sodom and Gomorra was after the same manner. Gen. 19:28 The presence of the Lord can be a complete blessing unto life eternal or an absolute condemnation to eternal damnation, depending on the spiritual condition of those whom the Lord is visiting. In this instance the smoke is caused by the incense of myrrh and frankincense as well as various other spices, all of which are representative of the prayer and worship of the Bride for her Bridegroom. Note Rev. 8:4

LO, THERE ARE TWO COMING FROM THE DESERT. The Bridegroom and His beloved Bride. Like a couple returning from a honeymoon, she is, in love and adoration, leaning on His arm. Both in affection and for strength. Song 8:5 His right hand, the hand of power, strength and authority sustaining her. Ps. 63:8 There is a love story between Christ and His church, that exceeds all others. The emotion and love expressed between them are pure and untainted by the lusts of this world. Her words may be found in scriptures like Psalm 63:8 My soul followeth hard after thee, thy right hand upholdeth