

Are you dressed and ready for the occasion?

John 14:1-4 KJV

1] Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. [2] In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. [4] And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

When the Lord Jesus returns for the church, His Bride, will you be dressed and ready to receive him? As you know. A Bride is very particular about her dress. The dress is usually the most expensive part of the ceremony. Sometimes it takes months or even years to find or design the right dress. The traditional dress is usually white without spots or wrinkles. This dress does not mingle with any other clothing. It is usually set aside and set apart for only one usage.

If you are the bride, does your dress depict readiness? Is it white? Is it clean? Has it been pressed and ironed out? Has it been set aside and set apart? Have you spent time making sure that your dress will be pleasing to the Lord upon his return?

Revelation 19:6-8 KJV

[7] Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. [8] **And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.**

Sometimes you forget that Jesus is on his way back soon. When you forget, you get complacent and stop preparing for the journey. You should never stop planning. You should always be putting forth an effort to make yourselves presentable to our Lord and savior. The flesh is a mess and it will take time to work out all of the kinks and blemishes. If you don't start working on it now, you just might not make the deadline. Don't allow yourself to miss what God has in store for you. You can't just sit back and do nothing. When the Lord comes, let him find you working.

As the time winds down and we see the evidence of the last days, you must not lose hope and not lose faith in the Groom's return. There will not be a reminder to prepare. You have to have your own internal clock that will ring daily and remind you to continue to ready yourselves for this great coming. Always have your bags packed with spiritual necessities. The word should be the first item that you pack into your suitcase. Without the word of God, nothing else matters. In your time of preparation, you must always refer to the word of Truth to keep you focused on the tasks at hand. The word will render clear instructions before your departure to assure that you get a seat and arrive safely.

Look, you are only responsible for getting yourself ready and making the announcement. You are not responsible for getting everyone else packed and ready to go. When they hear the word of God, they must take action as well. Jesus is the one who will sound the alarm upon arrival. So don't get caught up in whether or not people accept the truth because according to **John 8:31-32**, Jesus says that "...If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye will know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." and in **John 14:6** "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

In closing:

Jesus is the TRUTH! Therefore, what he has spoken about his return is also the truth. What if within this very hour the Lord shall appear, will you be fully dressed? Can you say today that there is nothing left for you to do to prepare yourself? Or have you just forgotten about the occasion? It's time we all take a look into our closet and see if there is any more prepping that needs to be done to our dress or what we call our flesh. Let the Holy Spirit guide you into all righteousness and truth. **John 16:13-15 declares** "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come." If we listen to the Holy Spirit and stay vigilant, the Spirit will inform us of all that God speaks and therefore prepare us for his coming. Take time out in the Word and spend time listening so you can be absolutely sure that you will be dressed and ready for this Holy Occasion.