

# A lonely Bridegroom calls His Bride

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In these days, more than ever before, it is important to hear what the Spirit has to say to the Bride. What is on God's agenda in this time?

We attend a home church where no formal programme is followed and every gathering is a fresh and exiting experience of how the Body of Christ should function and move. Worship acquires an entirely new meaning when the Holy Spirit is in control! (Ephesians 5:18,19). During previous meetings the Holy Spirit has ministered to the group regarding the relationship between the Bridegroom and the Bride. During one specific meeting, as the worship was flowing with songs and Scripture, a member of the congregation started prophesying a love song from the Bridegroom to the Bride.

I could immediately relate to the spiritual flow, because on the previous day I had been busy with a study on the same topic. I had learnt that it is God's eternal plan that His Son, the Bridegroom, should not be alone but have an eternal companion, the Bride, to be at His side (Revelation 3:21, 21:9 and Luke 12:32). I also realised that the Bridegroom eagerly longs for this relationship, but that the Bride is not fully in place. I could, at first, not fully understand that Jesus can actually feel *lonely* and I struggled with the idea.

It was to my great surprise that, when listening to the love song, exactly the same message came across. It was a lengthy song and I was deeply touched by the message that Jesus is very lonely because He desperately longs for His Bride. The message of His longing came through very strongly and I had to switch off my mind and really listen in the spirit to somehow grasp something of this awesome message.

The following morning I continued my conversation with God and expressed my desire to respond to the Bridegroom's love song. The Holy Spirit then guided me to understand the prophetic analogy between the first and second Adam.

God created the first Adam in His image and He said, 'it is not good that man (Adam) should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him... And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh' (Genesis 2:18, 21-23).

When comparing this with the second Adam, i.e. Jesus, we find amazing similarities. God also caused a deep sleep to fall on Him when He died on the cross. Because of the wound in His side where the spear penetrated His flesh, Thomas, depicting the Bride, recognised her Husband when her fingers were put in His side! In Ephesians 5:30 Paul says: "We are bone of His bones and flesh of His flesh!"

***O, Bride of Christ, stand up and awake; the Bridegroom is lonely and longing for your love and companionship. Do not let Him wait!***