

Similarities with ancient Jewish marriage and Jesus' marriage with the church

0. Dating

A marriage with people is not something you just start.
It has to click between each other. You have to love each other.
You first have a time of dating etc. etc.

Similarly a marriage between Jesus and the Church

When does Jesus love us? What does Jesus see in us? We are His creation.

Ephesians 1: (ERV)

4 In Christ, he chose us before the world was made. He chose us in love to be his holy people—people who could stand before him without any fault. 5 And before the world was made, God decided to make us his own children through Jesus Christ. This was what God wanted, and it pleased him to do it.

So before God had made Heaven and Earth,
Jesus already began to desire a bond with us.

The Church has come to know and love Jesus.
That is, as it were, dating.

1. Beginning

The bridegroom leaves his father's house and goes to the bride's house.

Jesus leaves Father's house in Heaven and goes to Earth, the place of His Bride (the Church).
See Luke 2:1-20

2. Dowry

A sum of money for the bride's parents.

Jesus' blood for His Father.
(Heb. 9:22b, without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness)

3. Engagement

The bridegroom and bride drink from a cup of wine.
At that moment they are already officially married.

The cup serves as a symbol of the ratification of the New Covenant (the engagement) through which Jesus obtained the bride (12 disciples, Church) (institution of the Holy Communion).
(Luke 22:19-20, And he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant [engagement] in my blood, which is shed for you.")
At that time Jesus and His bride (the Church) were already officially married.

4. Abandonment

Note, you are in fact already married - do not cheat. I have paid the dowry, remember me and I will come and get you later.
Groom leaves the bride's house and returns to his father's house.

Jesus is saying, as it were: you are married - do not go after other gods.
I have paid a high price for you [the bride price, My blood, My life],
remember Me, you are My Bride (celebration of Holy Communion).
Be patient, I will come and get you later.
(John 16:5a, And now I go to Him who sent Me.)
Jesus leaves Earth and goes to His Father in Heaven. (Ascension)

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5.1 Preparation of the bridegroom

The bridegroom prepares living space in his father's house.

Jesus prepares living space for the Church.

(John 14:2 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.)

5.2 Bride Preparation

The bride works on her wedding garment.

The Church dresses beautifully with righteous acts of faith.

(Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.)

6. Pick-up

The groom comes to pick up his bride and brings her to his house.

Jesus comes to pick up the Church to Heaven (Rapture)

(John 14:3, 3 If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also.)

7. Marriage

The actual wedding ceremony with gifts - 7 days

7 year wedding party (during the Great Tribulation)

(Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad, rejoice, and give him glory, because the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his bride has prepared herself.

8. She was given fine linen to wear, bright and pure.

Gifts (Rewards)- Judgment Seat of Christ).

(1 Corinthians 3:14 If anyone's work that he has built survives, he will receive a reward..)

8. Meal

Wedding Supper with Guests.

Wedding Supper (in the Millennium)

(Matthew 22:1-20, the royal wedding)

(Revelation 19:9a, And he said unto me, "Write: Blessed are those invited to the marriage feast of the Lamb.)

With Guests from the Great Tribulation. (Matthew 24:31 He will send out his angels with a loud trumpet, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.)

9. End

Living together, till death do us part.

Eternal life on the New Earth. (Revelation 22:5 Night will be no more; people will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, because the Lord God will give them light, and they will reign forever and ever.)