

## The Betrothal

This is where the marriage contract is established. The prospective bridegroom would leave his father's house and go to where the prospective bride lived. We see this clearly portrayed in Scriptures in Genesis 2:24 which says:

*For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.*

The first part of the verse: *For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother* is evident at the betrothal stage. This verse is again quoted in The New Testament in Ephesians 5:31:

*For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.*

Also in Ephesians 5:32-33:

*This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife [see] that she reverence [her] husband.*

Then, in the very next verse, The Bible tells us that this is speaking "with reference to THE MESSIAH and HIS Church!" THE LORD and HIS people! THE BRIDEGROOM and HIS bride! Oh, what Glory!

- Don't you see that GOD is in love with you!!
- HE wants you. HE wants you by HIS side.
- HE loves you. HE has greatness for you; HE has goodness for you; HE has provided everything for us; and an ever better forever and ever for us with HIM!
- GOD has come and asked you to marry HIM. HE has proposed. HE has brought gifts from heaven, HE has brought blessings-every one, HE has made promises-all of which in HIM are Yes!

You have before you a future and a hope, heaven, and so much more, which you couldn't even conceive of what is in store for you when you say YES! YES to HIM, and only to HIM. Believe HIM, believe in HIM, love HIM, live for HIM, and live with HIM.