



To Enjoy and Express the Freeing Radical Love of Jesus

The  
First & Last  
Advent

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# The First & Last Advent

## ADVENT WEEK 3 “CHRIST OUR LOVE”

REVELATION 19

*“THE CHRISTMAS PROPOSAL”*

DECEMBER 11

*19:7 “Let us rejoice and exult  
and give him the glory,  
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his Bride has made herself ready;*

# Cosmic RomCom



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## Revelation 19

<sup>6</sup> Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

*“Hallelujah!*

*For the Lord our God*

*the Almighty reigns.*

<sup>7</sup> *Let us rejoice and exult*

*and give him the glory,*

*for the marriage of the Lamb has come,*

*and his Bride has made herself ready;*

<sup>8</sup> *it was granted her to clothe herself*

*with fine linen, bright and pure”—*

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

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<sup>9</sup> And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.” <sup>10</sup> Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems...<sup>16</sup> On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.



Violent RomCom  
Battle for the Bride  
Our Wedding Day  
Our Wedding Song

# Violent RomCom



Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.

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<sup>31</sup> “...very good...”



# Violent RomCom

## Genesis 3

<sup>1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say...”

<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”





# Violent RomCom

## Christmas Advent #1



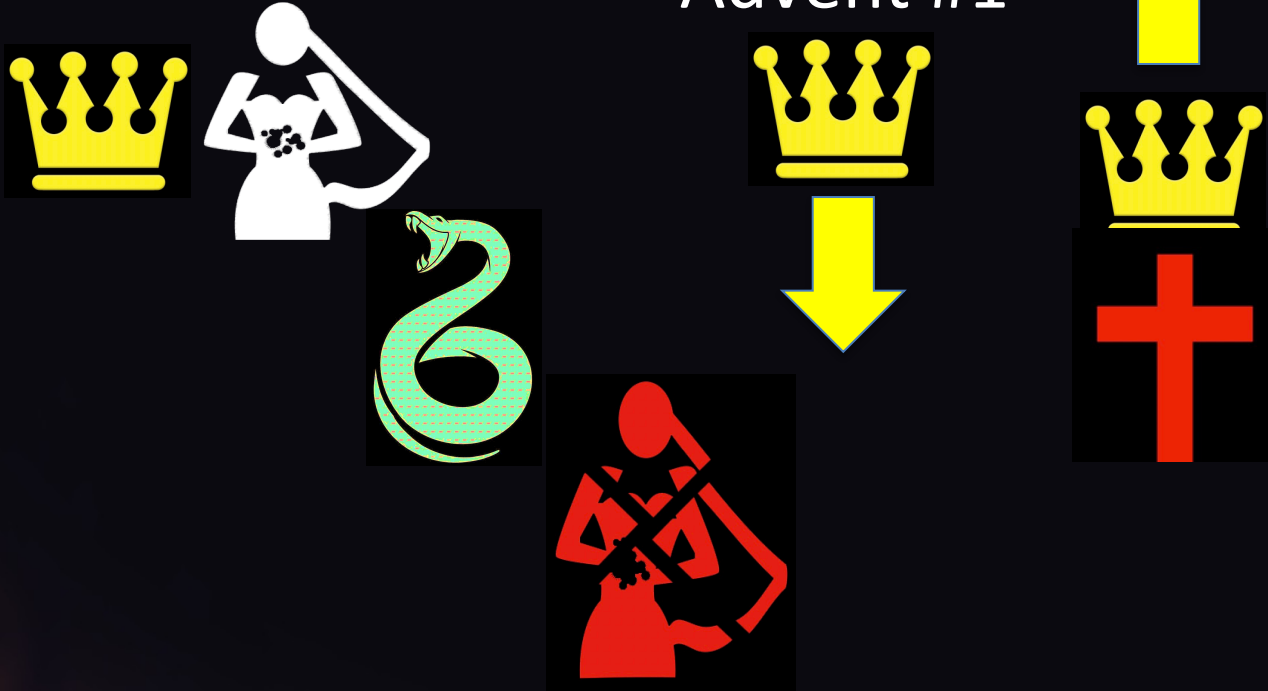
## Betrothed

### Matthew 1

<sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

# Violent RomCom

Christmas  
Advent #1



Colossians 2

(Jesus) set aside (our record of debts), nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

John 14:3

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

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# Violent RomCom

Christmas  
Advent #1



Between  
Two Advents



Ephesians 6:12

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers,  
against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present  
darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

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# The Battle for the Bride

## Revelation 17

<sup>3b</sup> I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. <sup>4</sup> The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. <sup>5</sup> And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: “Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth’s abominations.”

<sup>6b</sup> When I saw her, I marveled greatly.

Hand = Behavior

Forehead = Identity

# The Battle for the Bride

The Dragon = "Rome"  
Self-Sufficiency

Revelation 3:17 (Laodicea)  
You say, I am rich, I have prospered,  
and I need nothing, not realizing  
that you are wretched, pitiable,  
poor, blind, and naked.

My Life. My Plans. My Goals. My Way. My Strength.  
In the depths of my heart I don't think I really need God.

# The Battle for the Bride

The Woman = “Culture”  
Self-Indulgence

Revelation 2:20 (Thyatira)  
But I have this against you, that you  
tolerate that woman Jezebel...

17:6b When I saw her,  
marveled greatly.

**Ephesus**

**Cost**

**Woman**

**Map**

**Heart**

**Directions**

**Cost**

Far more than promised

**Benefit**

Far less than promised

# Wedding Day

Revelation 17:14

They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”

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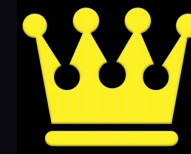


# Wedding Day

Betrothal → Marriage

<sup>11</sup> Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called **Faithful** and **True**, and in righteousness he judges and makes war.  
<sup>12</sup> His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many **diadems**...<sup>16</sup> On his robe and on his **thigh** he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

Return  
Advent #2



# Wedding Song

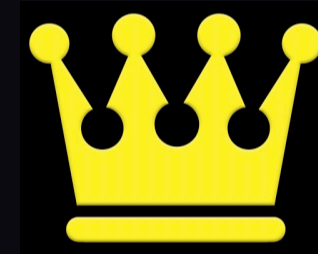
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*“Hallelujah!*

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the Almighty reigns.*

<sup>7</sup> *Let us rejoice and exult  
and give him the glory,  
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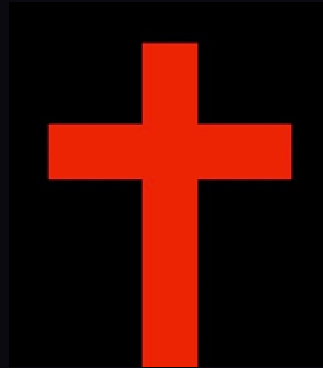
# Wedding Song

The Depths of my Singing Revelation 19 depends upon:

What we've been  
Rescued From



What we've been  
Rescued With



What we've been  
Rescued For



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<sup>9b</sup> “Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.”

## Matthew 26

<sup>26</sup> Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” <sup>27</sup> And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, <sup>28</sup> for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>29</sup> I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”



# Benediction

*A 4000 years old tradition of giving a corporate blessing over God's people.*

## Psalm 103

<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,  
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

<sup>13</sup> As a father shows compassion to his children,  
so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

<sup>14</sup> For he knows our frame;  
he remembers that we are dust.