

## 1 Wedding, Inc.

## 2 Weddings & Reality TV

- I Propose, Say Yes to the Dress, Cake Boss, My Big Redneck Wedding, Platinum Weddings, Engaged and Underage.
- These are a few of the wedding-themed reality shows on TV right now.
- American television is obsessed with weddings.
- In fact, they're now the hottest setting for entertainment on television.

## 3 Reality TV

- I Propose follows nervous boyfriends as they plan the perfect way to pop the question.
- Say Yes to the Dress features brides-to-be trying on expensive gowns.
- Cake Boss on The Learning Channel lets you admire the antics of an eccentric Italian family as they crank out extravagant wedding cakes.
- You can peek in on the nuptials of the super-wealthy on WE's Platinum Weddings and then flip over to . . .
- Something slightly less formal with My Big Redneck Wedding.
- Engaged and Underage on MTV follow teens who take the plunge before they can legally vote.

## 4 Bridezillas

- A bridezilla is a bride-to-be who is so focused on creating a perfect wedding that she is extremely unreasonable.
- Bridezillas tend to destroy everyone in their path with their demanding attitudes.
- The name, bridezilla, was inspired by the 1954 Japanese movie monster, Godzilla.
- Just as the monster Godzilla got its way by walking over people so does Bridezilla.

## 5 Royal Wedding

- This year 3 billion people watched Prince William, Duke of Cambridge marry Catherine Middleton on TV.
- Also, comments about the royal wedding from people broke the record on Twitter™, Google™, and Facebook™.
- In fact, in Pastor McCowan's home the wedding was watched by his wife and daughters at least three or four times.

## 6 Jesus and Weddings

- Apparently, Jesus was fond of weddings too.
- He even helped cater a wedding in Cana, where he performed his first miracle.
- Throughout his ministry, he used wedding imagery in his teaching and preaching to illustrate important truths about the Kingdom.
- You could also say that Jesus was wedding obsessed.

## 7 Wedding Allergic

- However, in one of Jesus' parables, he tells the story about people who are wedding-allergic. (Matthew 22)
- Jesus tells us that a wealthy king has invited those special to him to a lavish feast to celebrate the marriage of his son.
- Only, rather than jump at the chance to attend a royal wedding, everyone on the guest list RSVP'd with a big, fat "no."
- The king reiterated its extravagance: "Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast." (Matthew 22:4).
- The king sends more servants only to have them flatly ignored or mocked and killed.

## 8 Wedding Allergic

- The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. (Matt 22:7 NIV)
- The king then says, "Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests." (Matt 22:9-10 NIV)
- The point of this parable is simple, God invited His people (the Jews) to a grand wedding feast, but as a whole they rejected His invitation.
- Evidently, they had something against the bridegroom—for they killed him shamefully.
- Therefore, God now makes his appeal to the world and many come and the banquet hall is full.

## 9 The 12 Most Expensive Weddings

- 12. Catherine Zeta-Jones and Michael Douglas (\$1.6)
- 11. Tom Cruise and Katie Homes (\$2.1 million)
- 10. Christina Aguilera and Jordan Bratman (\$2.2 million)
- 9. Elizabeth Hurley and Arun Nayar (\$3.6 million)
- 8. Paul McCartney and Heather Mills (\$3.6 million)
- 7. Elizabeth Taylor and Larry Fortensky (\$4 million)
- 6. Liza Minnelli and David Gest (\$4.2 million)
- 5. Chelsea Clinton and Marc Mezvinsky (\$5 million)
- 4. Wayne Rooney and Coleen McLoughlin (\$8 million)
- 3. Prince William and Kate Middleton (\$34 million)
- 2. Vanisha Mittal and Amit Bhatia (\$66 million)
- 1. Prince Charles and Lady Diana (\$110 million)

## 10 The Marriage Supper of the Lamb

- The Marriage Supper of the Lamb will be a grand wedding feast that will take place in heaven. (Revelation 19:7-10)

- It is for all those who have responded to God’s invitation and put on their wedding clothes.
- It will take place immediately after the rapture of the saints—where the bridegroom (Christ) and the bride (Church) are reunited for marriage.
- It is going to be such a grand and wonderful event that is taking over 2,000 years in which to prepare.
- It will be the most expensive and most extravagant wedding of all time and forever more.

## 11 Are You Excited!

- The Marriage Supper of the Lamb will be the most grand and wonderful celebration of all creation.
- Nothing will be able to touch it with its lavish extravagance.
- Nevertheless, if this is so, why do so many of us act like Bridezillas.
- In other words, why do we so easily allow ourselves to get so bent out of shape when things don’t go our way?
- Don’t we appreciate the fact that we who are nobodies have an invitation to the most lavish event that will ever be recorded?

## 12 Appropriate Dress

- One of the most embarrassing moments a person can have is when they dress inappropriately for a big event.
- You stick out like a sore thumb and it can be very humiliating—especially when everyone is looking at you.
- The same thing can happen at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb. It has a strict dress code.

## 13 The Reaction of the King

- “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ‘Friend,’ he asked, ‘how did you get in here without wedding clothes?’” The man was speechless. (Matt 22:11–12 NIV)
- “Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’” (Matt 22:13 NIV)

## 14 Commentary

- According to Kenneth Barker and John Kohlenberger, Zondervan NIV Bible Commentary . . .

- Whether one is good or bad, there is an appropriate attire for this wedding feast. The guest without a special garment, though invited, did not prepare acceptably for the feast. His speechlessness proves he knows he is guilty, even though the king gently calls him “friend” (v. 12; cf. 20:13). Thus, though the invitation is very broad, it does not follow that all who respond positively actually remain for the banquet. Some are cast out.
- Jesus concludes with a pithy statement explaining the parable. Many are invited; but some refuse to come, and others who do come refuse to submit to the norms of the kingdom and are therefore rejected.

## 15 Getting Wedding Clothes

- “Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) (Rev 19:7–8 NIV)
- “Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed.” (Rev 16:15 NIV)
- John asks the angel about who are those in white robes, And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.” (Rev 7:14 NIV)
- “Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels.” (Rev 3:4–5 NIV) [See also Rev. 3:18]

## 16 Honored Guest

- When someone puts on a fabulous party and bares no expense and then invites us nobodies to come, wouldn’t that be a great honor?
- Therefore, we should do our best to come with our very best clean clothes.
- For us to do otherwise, might very well be interpreted as contempt by the host.
- So then, let us be grateful guests and start preparing for the most incredible wedding celebration that has ever been planned.
- We won’t have to view it from a far, but be the Lord’s special guest. In fact, we’ll be with the bridegroom and be the honored guest.

## 17 The Wedding Dress

- It is very interesting how women go to such great expense and effort to look their best on their wedding day.

- Their number one focus will be on their wedding dress, which according to custom is all white—standing for purity and innocence.
- In fact, this dress will be the most expensive dress they will ever own and is only worn for one day.
- Therefore, don't we want to be as diligent as they and be ready for our marriage to the Lord, in heaven?
- He's getting ready, shouldn't we also?

## 18 Last Supper

- According to Jewish tradition, there were four times that wine was to be partaken of during Passover and is based on Exodus 6:6–7.
- The first cup is called Sanctification (I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians), the second is Blessing (I will free you from being slaves to them), the third is Redemption (I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and mighty acts of judgment) and the fourth is Acceptance (I will take you as my people and I will be your God.)
- Tradition says that when Jesus said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is poured out for you," He was referring to the 3rd cup of the Passover, the Cup of Redemption.
- However, he then stops and says, "I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God." (Mark 14:25 NIV)
- The 4th Cup of the Passover, the Cup of Acceptance was not performed.
- It will be celebrated in heaven at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb and he will say to all who are invited and dressed, "I will take you as my people and I will be your God."

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