

## **The profound mystery in Matthew's Gospel**

Matthew 9:15: "The bridegroom"

Matthew 22:2: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son"

### **1. Preparing the way for the bridegroom**

The genealogy (1:1–17)

The divorce? (1:19)

The fulfilment (1:22; 2:15, 18; 3:3)

### **2. The bridegroom's words**

Adultery, lust, divorce, sexual immorality (5:27–32; 14:4; 15:19; 19:3–9)

An adulterous generation (12:39; 16:4)

Marriage in the resurrection (22:23–33 cf. 19:10–12)

True love (22:34–40)

### **3. The bridegroom's pursuit**

The pursuit of Jerusalem, rejected (23:37–38)

The pursuit continues, to Jerusalem (16:21; 17:22–23; 20:17–19; 20:28)

The proposal (9:37–38; 11:28; 22:9; 28:18)

### **4. The bridegroom and his bride**

The marriage of heaven and earth (6:10; 16:19; 18:18; 28:18)

The marriage vows (11:28; 28:20)

The fruitful marriage (3:9; 19:13–15; 28:18–20 cf. Genesis 1:26–28)

The marriage feast (8:11–12; 22:1–14; 25:31–34)