

The Reasons People Receive Jesus

Rev. Jonathan White

**Text: John 1:11-13; John 3:27-30; Ephesians 5:21-33;
Revelation 19:7, 21:2, 21:9, 22:17**

Introduction:

It is possible to try to receive what you believe Jesus can do FOR you, without receiving Jesus Himself!

*LAMBANO: To take, grasp, seize, or receive,
as well as to take to oneself something or someone.*

Let's review for a moment - There are a number of myths about receiving Jesus.

Some people believe that they have received Jesus when they've:

Chosen to say the right _____ — it's _____.

Chosen to try the _____ of Jesus — it's a _____.

Chosen to accept His offer of _____ — it's a _____.

If receiving Jesus is one of these three things, it really doesn't matter what our motive in is. All that would matter then is that we HAVE received Him. On the other hand, what if receiving Jesus is actually like accepting a MARRIAGE PROPOSAL?

The Bible says that the _____ is the _____ of _____.

*Jesus is extending an invitation to marriage to us.
When we become a part of His Church by receiving Him,
we help form the Bride of Christ!*

Please consider a few observations about brides in general.

Some brides marry:

_____, without having laid a solid
_____ for a lasting marriage

(“We got married in a fever, hotter than a pepper sprout; I’ve been
thinkin’ ‘bout Jackson ever since the fire went out...”).

_____, committing themselves to the life
they hope to live, rather than to the _____ they are
actually marrying.

Hoping to fulfill the _____ of other people.

To gain the bridegroom’s _____, rather than marrying
to receive the bridegroom’s love.

Out of _____ for the Bridegroom. This bride wants to be
able to fully _____ the depth of her love through
intimacy, faithfulness, and acts of service. She can’t imagine
trying to live without him!

*Our spiritual walk is much like marriage. The quality and duration
of a marriage is often determined by the initial motivation!*

Let’s hear what Jesus said about _____.

Conclusion:

God wants more than our yes, and more than our effort.
He wants to give and receive love in a permanent relationship
with us, because God is a **lover!**
