

# Hearts of Love

*Tom & Debbie Tillman "to touch the world for Jesus Christ"*

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bless you!***

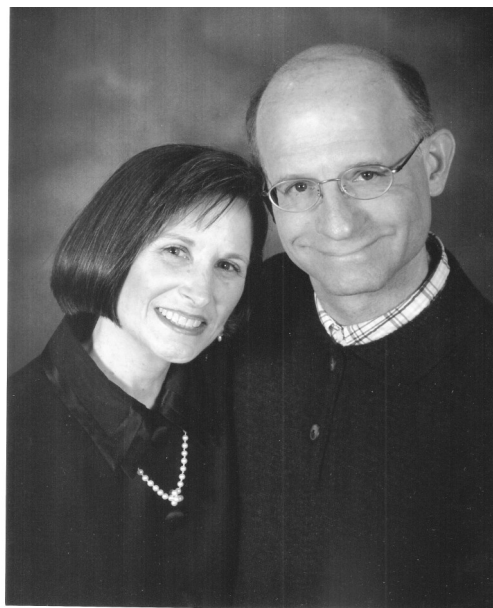
*Tom & Debbie*

## The Marriage Supper of the Lamb

**W**hat's the best meal you've ever eaten? I mean the best food... food so well prepared that you still remember it. What was the finest place wherein you've eaten? One day soon we will eat and enjoy food, the likes of which we don't even have a frame of reference with which to compare and we will live in a place which also will be beyond our present ability to even imagine.

The Bible teaches us that one day soon, the Lord Jesus Christ will come for us, the true Children of God, and take us back to Heaven with Him where we will receive rewards for what we have done on Earth and we will remain in His presence forever as the Bride of Christ, ruling and reigning with Him forever. In Rev. 19, we read: 'And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunders, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'"

The Bride of Christ includes all the saved from the birth of the Church after Jesus Christ's death, burial and resurrection until the Church is removed at the Rapture. After the Church is removed, God will resume His dealings with His Nation, Israel, throughout the seven years of The Tribulation and the thousand years of the Millennium while we, the Bride of Jesus Christ, rule and reign with Jesus Christ from Jerusalem.



*He has committed to  
us the word of  
Reconciliation.  
Therefore, we are  
Ambassadors for Christ.  
2 Corinthians 5:19,20*

Much of Jesus' teaching touched on the Jewish Wedding because our relationship to Him is what the Jewish Wedding ultimately points to. God didn't plan our relationship to Him to conform to the picture of a Jewish Wedding ceremony... just the opposite. He created human marriage to be the illustration of His relationship to us... His absolute commitment to all of us whom He has chosen for Himself.

God has given us the ability to imagine and He wants us to do so in relation to our future with Him. He commanded us to, '*set our minds on the things above*,' to think about Him, about Heaven and of all His future creation.

(A great example of God given imagination is John Bunyan's great allegory, A Pilgrim's Progress... we both happen to be reading it right now.)

His Word tells us that we will be given new, eternal, glorified bodies like the new body of the Lord Jesus Christ, a body which will no longer be bound by space or time.

I think about the future and about my new body; as my current body continues to age, I am ever reminded of some of the ways in which my new body will surpass this one. One of those ways is our relationship to food. We will eat and I think eating will be an incredible adventure then. Right now we

are eating, smelling, tasting, etc. in bodies that have lost so much ability through millennia of sin in the human race. Then they will be new with no relation to sin at all.

Soon, our new bodies will be limited only by the imagination of God, Himself: imagine God planning our new bodies: we can't even imagine the kinds of things He will make them capable of doing. Just something as simple as eating food... He will make them able to taste and enjoy food like we never have, and He will have created untold new flavors to excite our tongues and brains.

Currently we live within dull, insensitive bodies through which we can sense little of the world around us. When we take our first breaths in Heaven in our new bodies, I think we will be overwhelmed just from what we will suddenly smell, see and hear. I'll bet we'll even be able to taste the air. Then, when we begin to taste new foods... Have you ever had pop rocks? It's a candy that when you bite it, its flavor explodes in your mouth because of the mixture of sweet, sour and fizz. Then, every new flavor will be an exciting explosion in our mouths and we will never grow tired of any of it.

His Word says there will be a great banquet at our wedding to our

Messiah... imagine angels expertly preparing wonderful new foods with exciting new flavors.

One of our grandsons called not long ago and said he knew what he wanted for Christmas; he wanted a cookbook from me; he wanted my recipes written down, which was a little surprising because Tyler has always been a pizza and hotdogs kind of guy but I guess, since he is now married, he wants to be able to cook, along with his wife, to entertain guests in their new home.

This will be a little challenging because when I cook, when I make up something that is relatively new, I only write down the ingredients without exact measurements... I mostly cook through experiential approximation. (I learn from my mistakes. If it turns out wrong, I throw it away and start over.)

I approach cooking by deciding what something should taste like, deciding what ingredients will make it taste right with the correct consistency, and then adding just enough of each ingredient so that they all together build to complete the flavor without any ingredient overpowering the rest. Whatever the dish, it shouldn't be too salty, but it should have just enough salt to excite the specialized taste buds of our tongues that react to salt; the same is true for sweet, sour, etc.

Presently, our tongues only react to five basic flavors: sweet, sour, salt, bitter & hot.

To cook well, it helps to be a person who likes to eat good food. Good food doesn't have to be expensive or difficult to prepare but there are secrets to good cooking.

To cook well means to plan beforehand all that must be done. A well rounded meal must consist of several dishes that all complement each other.

The first secret to good cooking is: you can make crummy food with good ingredients but you cannot make good food with crummy ingredients. Your food will only taste as good as what you make it with. Always use only the best and freshest ingredients available.

When we eat, we use all of our senses: we see it, we smell it, we taste it and we sense its texture as we chew and sometimes we even hear our food; it might be sizzling. As we cook, we want to be aware of all five

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senses to help us create a complete dining experience.

Seeing bright, vibrant colors enhances a meal: steamed green broccoli, fresh yellow corn, bright red strawberries, etc. A good smell from something cooking fills the house, it heightens the anticipation.

Chewing something crunchy is more satisfying than chewing oatmeal. So if oatmeal is the dish, crunchy nuts on top make it better. A waiter brings a dish of sizzling meat to your table; you hear it, you see it and smell it before you even taste it.

The most important aspect of a meal is obviously how things taste and, again, there are just five basic flavors to be incorporated: sweet, salty, sour, bitter and hot/spicy. Our tongues have different areas which are specialized for tasting these different flavors. The front parts of our tongues especially taste sweet. The back of our tongues recognize bitter. Both sides of the front half of our tongues react to salty, both sides of the rear half especially sense sour and the whole tongue is excited by hot/spicy. Using all five different flavors makes for a most satisfying dining experience.

The best way to plan a meal is to bring in as many different flavors as we can.

For example: Sweet BBQ'd ribs are paired with salty fried potatoes, broccoli with asiago cheese adds some bitter, capped off with ice cream with blackberries for

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sweet and sour together.

It's important to have one dish that allows your tongue to have a recess... something bland for a rest... like mashed potatoes or rice.

The reason some Asian or Mexican food is so good is that a single dish might bring together three, four or even all five flavors.

A good meal will have a variety of tastes, smells, colors and textures. A well planned meal can be an adventure for the senses or it can be boring drudgery.

Cooking for guests, whether one or fifty, can be enjoyable as long as we give good thought and planning into each aspect of the meal.

I write all that to illustrate that if I, just a regular guy, regularly put that much thought into a simple meal, imagine what God has in mind for us, His beloved children, during our never ending time, forever with Him.

For years, many have told me I should put together a cookbook of my recipes

but I have never been one to do today what can just as easily be postponed until tomorrow or the next day or so... but with Christmas less than four months away, there aren't really that many tomorrows left. Who knows... maybe God even has some plan for a cookbook. Think about it... it starts with only one person... but imagine if finally, the whole World could learn to cook like me... wars would end, cancer could be cured, all Democrats would become Republicans... the possibilities are endless... I guess I have a responsibility to all mankind... OK... I'll do it! And, I'll even try to add in some accurate ingredient measurements and some of the secrets I've learned (like there being only five basic flavors and how to blend them.) Maybe I'll add a recipe to a Newsletter.

One day very soon, the Lord Jesus Christ will come for us, to take us to the special place He has been preparing for us.

Eating will only be one of our newly perfected joys and abilities. Our marriage to Him, our rule and reign with Him, our new glorified eternal bodies... what a time it will be... forever and ever and evermore.

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***The Harvest is Great, but the laborers are few.*** Matt 9:38

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