

Spirit (G4151) πνεῦμα (*pneuma*)

-from pneo (G4154) to breathe, blow – wind.
Interestingly the Hebrew word for spirit has this same root meaning of “breath” (H7307)

Synonyms: *breath, vigour, vital force, animation, essence*

1Cor 2:11 &10 - For who knows a person's thoughts except their own **spirit** within them?

In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God...
...The **Spirit** searches all things, even the deep things of God.

Gen 6:3 - Then the LORD said, “My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years.”

Matt 12:18 - Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations.

John 7:39 - But the Advocate, the Holy **Spirit**, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said...

Bride (G3565) νύμφη (*nympha*)

- Also symbolic of the body of believers in Christ

Synonyms: *betrothed one, young woman,*

John 3:29 - The **bride** belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete.

Rev 21:9 - One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the **bride**, the wife of the Lamb.”

Rev 19:9- Then the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the **wedding supper** of the Lamb...”

Jer 33:11 - This is what the LORD says: ‘You say about this place, “It is a desolate waste, without people or animals.” Yet in the towns of Judah and the streets of Jerusalem that are deserted, inhabited by neither people nor animals, there will be heard once more the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of **bride** and bridegroom, and the voices of those who bring thank offerings to the house of the LORD, saying, “Give thanks to the LORD Almighty, for the LORD is good; his love endures forever.”

For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were before,’ says the LORD.

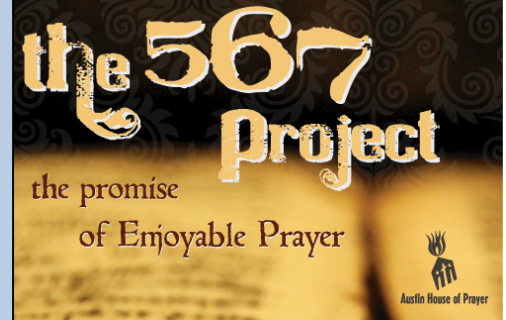
Rev 19:7 - Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his **bride** has made herself ready.

From the Matthew Henry Commentary

Rev. 21:2 - A new world now opens to our view (v. 1): I saw a new heaven and a new earth; that is, a new universe; for we suppose the world to be made up of heaven and earth. By the new earth we may understand a new state for the bodies of men, as well as a heaven for their souls. This world is not now newly created, but newly opened, and filled with all those who were the heirs of it. The new heaven and the new earth will not then be distinct; the very earth of the saints, their glorified bodies, will now be spiritual and heavenly, and suited to those pure and bright mansions. To make way for the commencement of this new world, the old world, with all its troubles and commotions, *passed away*.

In this new world the apostle saw *the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from heaven*, not locally, but as to its original: this new Jerusalem is the church of God in its new and perfect state, **prepared as a bride adorned for her husband, beautified with all perfection of wisdom and holiness, meet for the full fruition of the Lord Jesus Christ in glory.**

John 3:29 -He compares our Saviour to the *bridegroom*: “He that hath the bride is the bridegroom. Do all men come to him? It is well, **whither else should they go?** Has he got the throne in men's affections? Who else should have it? It is his right; to whom should the bride be brought but to the bridegroom?” Christ was prophesied of in the Old Testament as a bridegroom, Ps. 45. *The Word was made flesh, that the disparity of nature might not be a [hindrance] to the match.* Provision is made for the purifying of the church, that the defilement of sin might be no bar. Christ espouses his church to himself; he *has* the bride, for he has her love, he has her promise; *the church is subject to Christ*. As far as particular souls are devoted to him in faith and love, so far the bridegroom has the bride. [2.] He compares himself to the *friend of the bridegroom*, who attends upon him, to do him honour and service, assists him in prosecuting the match, speaks a good word for him, uses his interest on his behalf, rejoices when the match goes on, and most of all when the point is gained, and he *has the bride*. All that John had done in preaching and baptizing was to introduce him; and, now that he was come, he had what he wished for.



Word Study Revelation 22:17

The **Spirit** and the **bride** say, “Come!” And let the one who hears say, “Come!”

The language of bride and bridegroom is a common analogy to express the relationship of Christ to his church. Though all ‘analogies’ fall short of describing the truest reality of the situation, there are many things that are rightly encapsulated by this language

- Christ's devotion for his church and vice versa
- his *jealousy* for, or his righteous desire to be the only one she gives her love to
- in the image of ‘masculine’ and ‘feminine’ we are shown the symbolism of ‘that which initiates’ and ‘that which responds’. Our creaturely role is fundamentally to respond to God's work, to carry in us and bring to birth the things he has begun and that he has spoken.

Only God initiates, creates – from him *and*, ultimately, to him are all things.