

*Psalm 45: Set to the tune of "The Lilies" –
a Song of Love*

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The Manner of the Marriage

The Betrothal:

- It was arranged by the father of the groom. He chose the bride.
- It included a contract indicating conditions and details of marriage.
- The groom would offer the bride price – the greater price, the greater the love for the bride.
- It included a ceremony which involved drinking a cup of wine together, this sealed and guaranteed the betrothal.

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The Waiting:

- The man would leave, announcing: "I'm going to prepare a place for you. I will return when it's ready."
- **Chuppah** – wedding chamber, room at father's house
- The woman would prepare herself by making herself pure and beautiful.

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The Procession:

- When the wedding chamber was ready, the groom would collect his bride.
- The bridegroom would be dressed in a festive outfit, and wedding turban (crown).
- He announced his arrival with a shout and shofar (trumpet).

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The Procession:

- The bride would be dressed in a white dress, embroidered with gold and jewels.
- The Bridegroom would steal the bride from her father's house.
- The wedding party would proceed to the groom's house.

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The Marriage Supper:

- The bride and groom and invited guests would enjoy a marriage supper which included another special sharing of a cup of wine.
- The groom would escort his bride to the wedding chamber (chuppah).

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The Grandeur of the Groom

Psalm 45:1 To the Chief Musician. Set to "The Lilies." A Contemplation of the sons of Korah. A Song of Love.

My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King; My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

The King is the main character of the poem

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The Grandeur of the Groom

Psalm 45:2 You are fairer than the sons of men;
Grace is poured upon Your lips; Therefore God has
blessed You forever

- He is beautiful and handsome.
- His speech is eloquent and gracious.

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The Grandeur of the Groom

Psalm 45:3-5 ³ Gird Your sword upon Your thigh,
O Mighty One, With Your glory and Your majesty.
⁴ And in Your majesty ride prosperously because of
truth, humility, and righteousness; And Your right
hand shall teach You awesome things. ⁵ Your
arrows are sharp in the heart of the King's enemies;
The peoples fall under You.

- He is mighty, splendid, and majestic.

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The Grandeur of the Groom

Psalm 45:6-7 ⁶ Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. ⁷ You love righteousness and hate wickedness; Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.

- He is a man and He is God.

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The Grandeur of the Groom

Psalm 45:8-9 ⁸ All Your garments are scented with myrrh and aloes and cassia, Out of ivory palaces stringed instruments have made You glad. ⁹ Kings' daughters are among Your noble ladies; At Your right hand stands the queen in gold from Ophir.

- He is dressed for the occasion wearing fragrant perfume.

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The Beauty of the Bride

Psalm 45:8-9 ⁸ All Your garments are scented with myrrh and aloes and cassia, Out of ivory palaces stringed instruments have made You glad. ⁹ Kings' daughters are among Your noble ladies; At Your right hand stands the queen in gold from Ophir.

- She is wearing gold – symbolizing wealth (her value) and purity.

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The Beauty of the Bride

Psalm 45:10-11 ¹⁰ Listen, O daughter, give attention and incline your ear; Forget your own people also, and your father's house; ¹¹ Then the King will greatly desire your beauty; Because He *is* your Lord, worship Him.

- She is to receive important advice.
- She must forget her people, culture, old ways.
- She is to submit to her Lord.
- She is to worship and honor Him.

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The Beauty of the Bride

Psalm 45:12-15 ¹² And the daughter of Tyre will come with a gift; The rich among the people will seek your favor. ¹³ The King's daughter is all glorious within the palace; Her clothing is woven with gold. ¹⁴ She shall be brought to the King in embroidered work; The virgins, her companions who follow her, shall be brought to You. ¹⁵ With gladness and rejoicing they shall be brought; They shall enter the King's palace.

- She is in her finest attire.

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With great gladness and rejoicing, they
enter the King's palace – His home.

Psalm 45:15-17 ¹⁵ With gladness and rejoicing they shall be brought; They shall enter the King's palace.
¹⁶ Instead of Your fathers shall be Your sons, Whom You shall make princes in all the earth. ¹⁷ I will make Your name to be remembered in all generations; Therefore the people shall praise You forever and ever.