"A FRIEND OF THE BRIDEGROOM"

Delivered to DANVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Mid-week Dec. 14th 2016

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Read: John 3:24-30

The famous chapter 3 of Johns' gospel. We will find what is in the more neglected parts of this chapter. John the Baptist is baptizing, soon to be cast in prison, but not yet.

John 3:29

He **that hath the bride** is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: **this my joy is fulfilled.**

A significant moment when John the Baptist completed his work.

He **that hath the bride** is the bridegroom:

Christ owns His church-"churches of Christ" Rom. 16:16

1- Built on Christ- Mt. 16:18

2-Bought by Christ- Acts 20:28

3- To be wed to Christ- Rev 19:7

Currently, the Lord's church is the Bride-elect. One day they will wed.

...this my joy is FULFILLED.

The whole work of John the Baptist was a joy, and now it has been fulfilled. Fulfilled because the bridegroom has united with the bride-elect. **As if John the Baptist says:** If this union had not occurred I would not be joyed. In the future, I cannot do anything more. This is my purpose in life and ...this **my joy** is **FULFILLED**.

Note the what and why concerning the Bible:

What? It can be explained that the bible is about; the war of the two kingdoms.

Why? It can be further explained that the purpose this is; God joining His Son with His Bride at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.