

## **WEDDING/MARRIAGE COVENANT SEAL CEREMONY**

**Malachi 2:14** *"Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the Lord hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant. "*

**Nehemiah 9:38** *"And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, seal unto it."*

**1 Corinthians 7:2** *"Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband."*

**Genesis 2:24** *"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."*

**Matthew 19:6** *"Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."*

As Senior Pastor (Bishop) of Fellowship of the First Resurrection Church & First Resurrection Israelite Ministries; Bro. Lanny is authorized to officiate & solemnize marriages in the state of Tennessee. This is in compliance with Tennessee State Code: T.C.A. § 36-3-301(a) which states that as a minister of a religious institution you may administer a wedding.

A "minister" is defined in the American Heritage Dictionary as "a person authorized to perform religious functions in a church." A "minister" is also defined in Words and Phrases as a person who is ordained in conformity with the customs of any organized denomination. Town of Londonderry v. Town of Chester, 2 N.H. 268, 9 Am.Dec. 61.

It is our Church policy to only perform these services for Baptized Members of our Church or any other Church that confirms the following:

1. THE GODHEAD OR ELOHIM CONSISTS OF THE FATHER AND THE SON JESUS CHRIST
2. THE ENTIRE BIBLE (OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT) IS GOD'S WORD
3. KEEPING THE DIETARY LAW
4. LORD'S FEAST DAYS AS LAID OUT IN LEVITICUS 23: PASSOVER, FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD, FEAST OF WEEKS (PENTECOST), MEMORIAL BLOWING OF TRUMPETS, DAY OF ATONEMENT, & FEAST OF TABERNACLES
5. OBSERVE SABBATH AND NEW MOON
6. KEEP THE ROYAL LAW: WHICH ARE GOD'S COMMANDMENTS. JESUS ONLY REMOVED THE LAW OF ANIMAL SACRIFICE/LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD WITH HIS DEATH, BURIAL, & RESURRECTION.
7. SIN IS TRANSGRESSING THE LAW AS STATED IN 1 JOHN 3:4
8. ALL PEOPLE MAY OBTAIN SALVATION (NOT JUST ISRAELITES) BY REPENTING OF THEIR SINS, BEING BAPTIZED IN JESUS NAME, & OBEYING GOD'S COMMANDMENTS.

Tennessee marriage laws require the parties to obtain a marriage license from the appropriate county clerk as a condition precedent to the solemnization of a valid marriage. In accordance with T.C.A. § 36-3-103(a): "Before being joined in marriage, the parties shall present to the minister or officer a license under the hand of a county clerk in the state of Tennessee, directed to such minister or officer, authorizing the solemnization of a marriage between the parties. Such license shall be valid for thirty (30) days from its issuance by the clerk."

In addition, the Legislature has expressly set forth the requirements for the issuance of a marriage license. Such requirements have been made a condition precedent to the issuance of the license. See T.C.A. § 36-3-104. Thus, it is clear that Tennessee law requires the parties desiring to be married to obtain a marriage license before a marriage ceremony may be properly solemnized. The general rule is that a ceremony performed in Tennessee without a marriage license will not result in a valid marriage. Therefore Pastor Lanny will not proceed performing a marriage ceremony until and unless the parties produce a marriage license for his or her signature. THIS INCLUDES OUT OF STATE WEDDINGS AND MEANS YOU MUST HAVE A VALID MARRIAGE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE FOR MARRIAGE ISSUED FROM THE COUNTY OF THE STATE YOU RESIDE IN. After the wedding ceremony is performed and the documents signed by Pastor Lanny; you may then submit your certificate and or license to your local County Clerk's office for final approval.

We have two churches and one satellite location. Fellowship of the First Resurrection Greater Memphis Area (Tennessee, Mississippi, & Arkansas), First Resurrection Fellowship SoCal (Inland Empire, San Diego, Los Angeles & Orange Counties), & First Resurrection Fellowship Texas. Pastor Lanny is licensed/ordained to perform weddings in California pursuant & in accordance with State Code: Family; DIVISION 3 "MARRIAGE", PART 3 "SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGE" CHAPTER 1. Persons Authorized to Solemnize Marriage [400 - 402]. Pastor Lanny may also officiate/solemnize marriages in Texas pursuant to & in accordance with FAMILY CODE TITLE 1. THE MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP SUBTITLE A. MARRIAGE CHAPTER 2. THE MARRIAGE RELATIONSHIP SUBCHAPTER A. APPLICATION FOR MARRIAGE LICENSE SUBCHAPTER C. CEREMONY AND RETURN OF LICENSE Sec. 2.202. PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT CEREMONY.

Both parties will be required to have a meeting with Pastor Lanny before the wedding to discuss the Biblical implications of said union. If previously divorced the woman's former husband must be deceased in order for Pastor Lanny to officiate the wedding: Romans 7:2-3 "2 For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. 3 So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man." 1 Corinthians 7:39 "The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord." Furthermore if the man is divorced his former wife must have committed fornication or else Pastor Lanny will not officiate/solemnize the union: Matthew 19:9 "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery."

Lastly, both parties may use written vows if they so choose. A short lesson on "Marriage According To The Bible" will be taught & then Brother Lanny will pronounce you man & wife or Husband & Wife. After which all relevant documentation will be signed.

**Nehemiah 9:38** *"And because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it; and our princes, Levites, and priests, seal unto it."*

ADDENDUM: For church members living in where we have locations Tennessee, California, & Texas please contact the church directly if you need help figuring out how to start the process with your local County Clerk (Tennessee & Texas) or County Assessor (California).