

Wedding Vow 6

Jewish

Traditional Jewish ceremony:

The wedding vow of greatest importance is spoken in conjunction with the presentation of the ring.

Reform wedding service:

This wedding vow may also be included, directed toward the groom and the bride, one at a time:

Officiant: "O God, supremely blessed, supreme in might and glory, guide and bless this groom and bride. Standing here in the presence of God, the Guardian of the home, ready to enter into the bond of wedlock, answer in the fear of God, and in the hearing of those assembled: Do you, [partner to whom the rabbi is speaking], of your own free will and consent, take [other partner] to be your [wife/husband], and do you promise to love, honor, and cherish [her/him] throughout life?"

Groom/Bride: "I do."

The Rabbinical Assembly Manual provides this vow exchange for the ceremony, which includes the ring vow and is led by the Officiant:

Officiant (to the groom): "Do you, [groom's name], take [bride's name] to be your lawful wedded wife, to love, to honor, and to cherish?"

Groom: "I do."

Officiant (to the bride): "Do you, [bride's name], take [groom's name] to be your lawful wedded husband, to love, to honor, and to cherish?"

Bride: "I do."

Officiant (to the groom): "Then, do you, [groom's name], put this ring upon the finger of your bride and say to her: "Be thou consecrated to me, as my wife, by this ring, according to the law of Moses and of Israel."

The groom repeats the wedding vow as directed by the officiant. The officiant then asks the bride to repeat after him this wedding vow: "May this ring I receive from thee be a token of my having become thy wife according to the law of Moses and of Israel." Or, if the bride is presenting the groom with a ring, she may repeat after the officiant, "This ring is a symbol that thou art my husband in accordance with the law of Moses and of Israel."

In some services the bride or groom may recite wedding vows based on the Song of Songs 7:10: "I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine."