

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

Resurrection Sunday is a celebration, not just about the life of Jesus, but that His resurrection broke the curse of SIN and DEATH, for ALL of us!!

There are similarities and contrasts between Solomon and Jesus, and Jesus wants us to view His crucifixion in light of **Song of Songs 3:6-11**. Jesus also wants us to view these similarities so we can appreciate the deeper and divine significance of what He had to face:

- **Similarity #1:** Both Solomon and Jesus arrive in Jerusalem (their intended destination) at the end of a long journey.
Contrast: Yet, while Solomon approaches the city from the wilderness, surrounded by skilled men; Jesus, travels from the city to the wilderness abandoned by His disciples. He was led from the city bound, like a sacrifice - He was the scapegoat (**Matthew 27:1-2; Deuteronomy 28:37**)
- **Similarity #2:** Both Solomon's and Jesus' female onlookers initially fail to recognize them.
Contrast: Yet, while Solomon's bride-to-be fails to recognize him because she first meets him as a shepherd - and - doesn't expect to see him in the midst of a royal entourage; Jesus' onlookers fail to **appreciate** the nature of Luke 23 events because they expect their Messiah to come as a king rather than lay His life down as a "good shepherd".
- **Similarity #3:** Both Solomon and Jesus are surrounded by "clouds" and spiced fragrances
Contrast: Yet, while Solomon is surrounded by clouds of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, Jesus is surrounded by a "cloud" of false witness (whose thoughts are far from sweet) and the fragrance He wears concerns His burial (**Luke 23:55-56, 24:1**)
- **Similarity #4:** Both Solomon and Jesus' journeys involve a wooden structure studded with metal, on which each man is borne up.
Contrast: Yet, while Solomon's wooden structure is a sedan chair carried by many men, on which Solomon travels in luxury. Jesus' wooden structure is not a luxurious sedan but is a **cruel cross** and it is not carried by many strong soldiers, but carried by **one, broken, weak, dying, suffering, rejected, ridiculed, pierced, bruised, bleeding, marred, Savior, Mocked King** - and - **He and He alone** - is the **only man carrying it**. Later this cruel cross is given fixtures not of gold and silver, but with nails of iron! (**John 19:17-18a**)
- **Similarity #5:** Both Solomon and Jesus are associated with purple/red fabric (the Hebrew word also indicates dark red).

Contrast: Yet, while Solomon's chariot is lined with purple/deep red fabric in recognition of his royalty; Jesus is clothed in scarlet in mockery of His royalty and is awarded the title: "King of the Jews" in jest. (**Mark 15:16-20**)

- **Similarity #6:** Both Solomon and Jesus are surrounded by an armed guard
Contrast: Yet, while the purpose of Solomon's guard is to protect him from the terrors of the night, the purpose of Jesus' armed guard is to nail Him to the cross, where He will be exposed to the terrors of the night (**Luke 22:53; 23:44-45; Isa. 13:10**)
- **Similarity #7:** Both Solomon and Jesus are surrounded by "daughters of Jerusalem."
Contrast: Yet, while Solomon's daughters are invited to share in his gladness, Jesus invites the daughters of Jerusalem to weep in light of what will soon come to pass there (**Luke 23:28**) , although they will not always have to mourn.

What the people didn't know about the **Lamb of God** who took away the sin of the world:

- They didn't know that they needed to be led through troubled waters (Isaiah).
- They didn't know that there needed to be One that so cared for them that He laid down His life.
- They didn't know that there needed to be a Shepherd who would be able to take them through and triumph over the valley of the shadow of death so that they could fear no evil and dwell in the house of the Lord forever!
- They didn't recognize that they - and you and I - needed a way to be made where there simply was no way.
- They didn't value that there needed to be the One who would take on their sinful disfigurement in order for them to be made whole.

The people didn't know they needed a Cross and that Cross would cost Jesus everything!

Beyond the shame of the Cross is Glory and Honor; **Beyond** the isolation of the Cross is the unison/marriage of a man and his bride; and, **Beyond** the death of the cross is life immortal.

Resurrection Sunday is proclamation to the world that God has approved of the work of His Son and it is in His Son's strength **ALONE** that there is salvation from sin!