

## The Terrors of the Night

Wayne Braudrick

Song of Songs 5:2–6:3

September 20, 2026

Life Change: We put connection over convenience

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### God values marriage, sex, and relationship

#### The wife's dream

She is cold toward her man

5:2–3

I slid into bed and Helen, instead of shrinking away from me as it would have been natural to do, deliberately draped her feet and legs over the human ice block that was her husband. The bliss was unbelievable. It was worth getting out just to come back to this. — James Herriot, *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

He leaves a present

5:4–6

#### The wife's dream

The dream becomes a nightmare

5:7–9

**“This is a dream. My reality is lovely.”**

She reflects on what she has

5:10–16

He is right here

6:1–3

Tomorrow mornin', if you wake up

And the sun does not appear

I will be here

If in the dark, we lose sight of love

Hold my hand, and have no fear

'Cause I will be here

I will be true to the promise I have made

To you and to the One who gave you to me

And sure as seasons are made for change

Our lifetimes are made for years

So I, I will be here

“I Will Be Here” by Steven Curtis Chapman



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A SONG OF VIRTUE



Valued by God, we live in His values.  
That allows us to create lasting value.



A S O N G O F V I R T U E

God values marriage and all it entails.



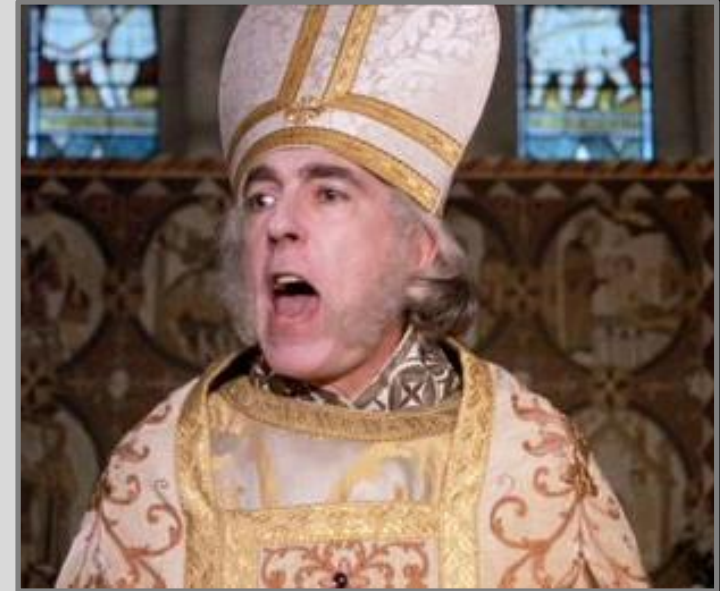
Dear Pastor Wayne,

It has come to my attention that in our church-wide 'Song of Songs' series a certain cultural reference has not been made that I was quite looking forward to. And knowing that you're a fan of the source of the reference I am just *shocked!* The reference I am speaking of is:

*Clergyman:* Mawriage. Mawriage is wot bwings us togeder tooday. Mawriage, dat blessewing, dat awrangement within a dweam within a dweam. And wove, twue wove, wiww fowlow you fowevev. So tweasuwe youw wove. – from *The Princess Bride*

Will we get to enjoy your interpretation any time soon?

Sincerely, *Awesome Teenager* via my dearest mother's email, which she is aware that I am using 😁



# Man Forced To Apologize For Whatever He Did In Wife's Dream Last Night

Family · Feb 19, 2019 · [BabylonBee.com](http://BabylonBee.com)



## *Woman*

<sup>2</sup> I was sleeping, but my heart was awake.  
A sound! My love was knocking!

## *Quoting the Man*

‘Open to me, my sister, my darling,  
my dove, my perfect one.  
For my head is drenched with dew,  
my hair with droplets of the night.’

*Woman*

<sup>3</sup> I have taken off my clothing.  
How can I put it back on?  
I have washed my feet.  
How can I get them dirty?

Song of Songs 5 CSB



*Quoting the Man*

‘Open to me, my sister, my darling,  
my dove, my perfect one.  
For my head is drenched with dew,  
my hair with droplets of the night.’

*Woman*

<sup>3</sup> I have taken off my clothing.  
How can I put it back on?  
I have washed my feet.  
How can I get them dirty?





I can't take it any longer in  
this underground prison.  
I'm breaking out.



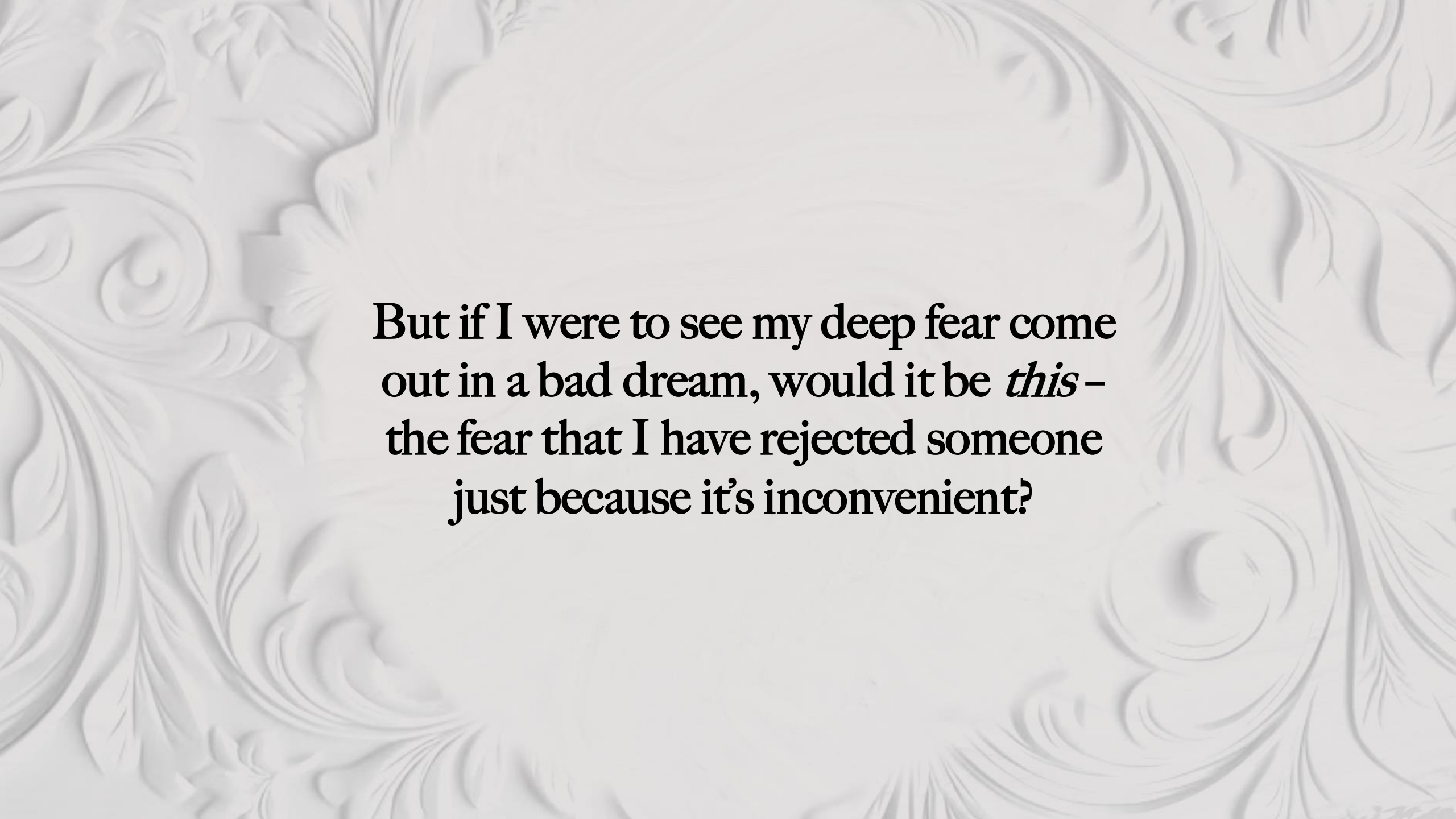
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‘Open to me, my sister, my darling,  
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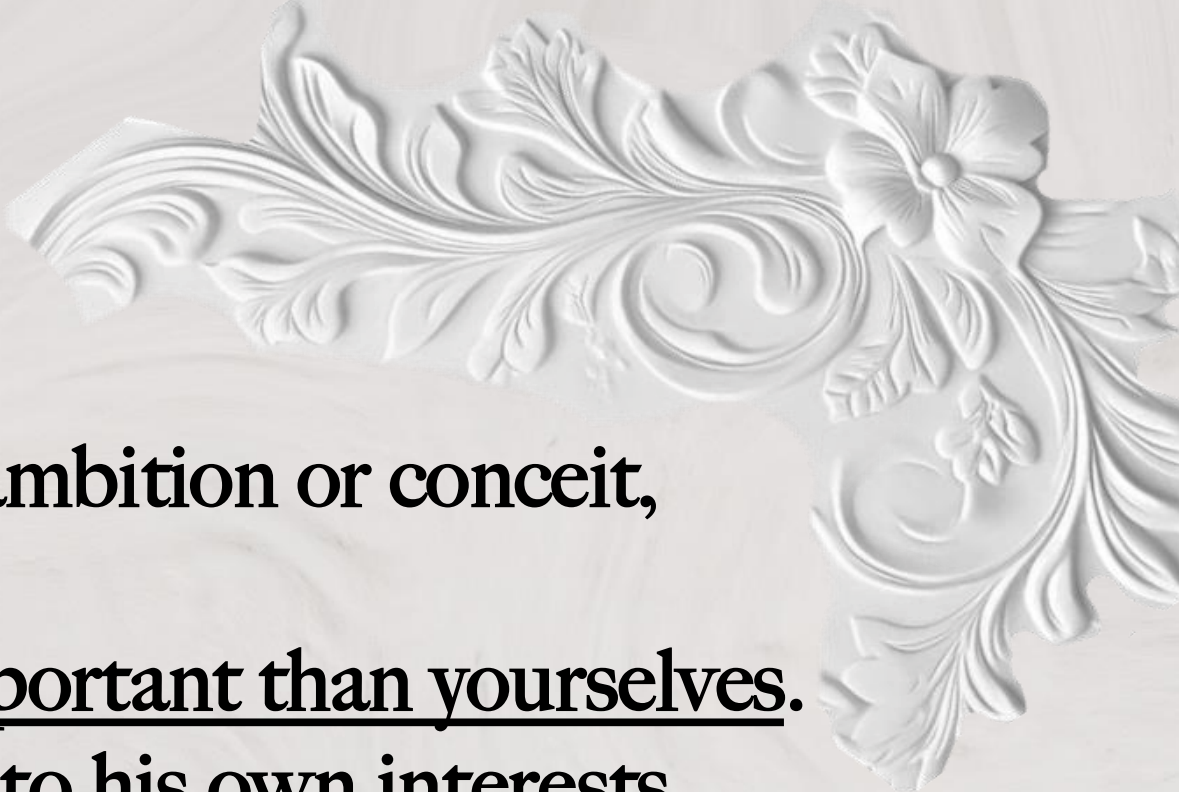
*Woman*

<sup>3</sup> I have taken off my clothing.  
How can I put it back on?  
I have washed my feet.  
How can I get them dirty?



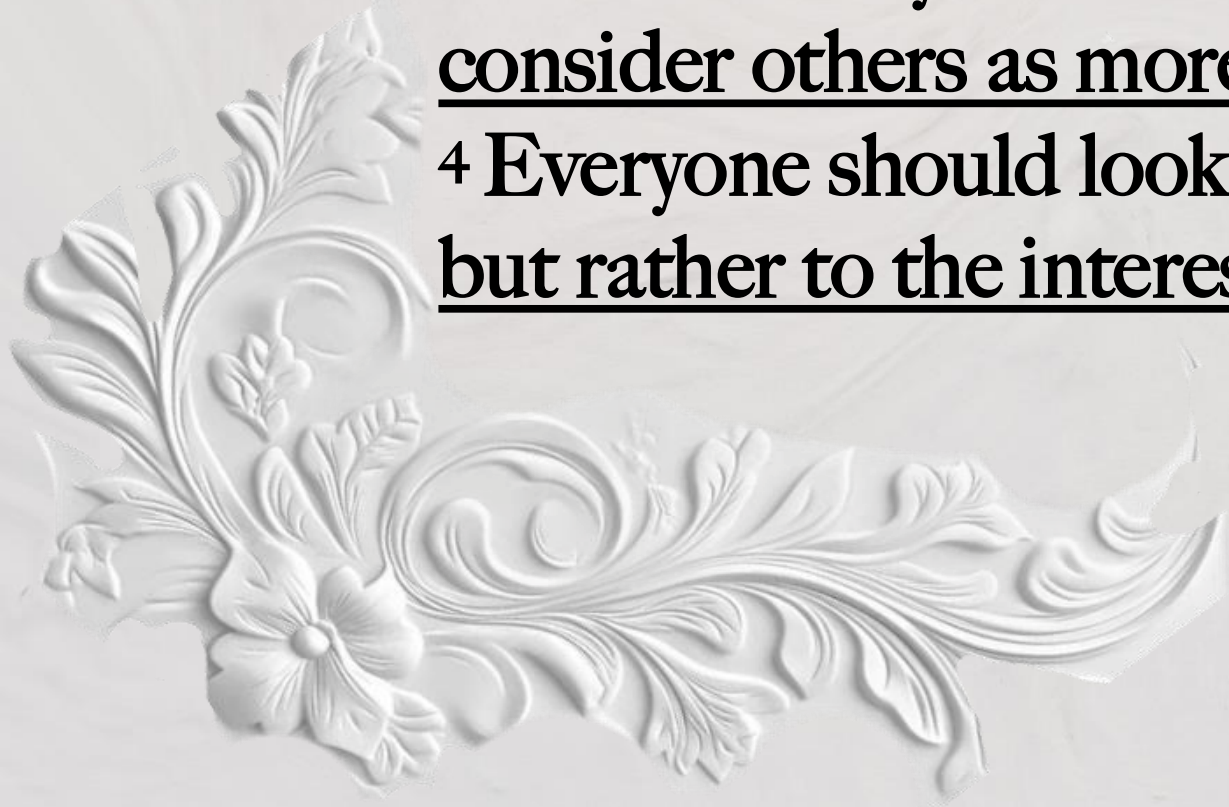


But if I were to see my deep fear come out in a bad dream, would it be *this* – the fear that I have rejected someone just because it's inconvenient?



**<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit,  
but in humility  
consider others as more important than yourselves.**

**<sup>4</sup> Everyone should look not to his own interests,  
but rather to the interests of others.**



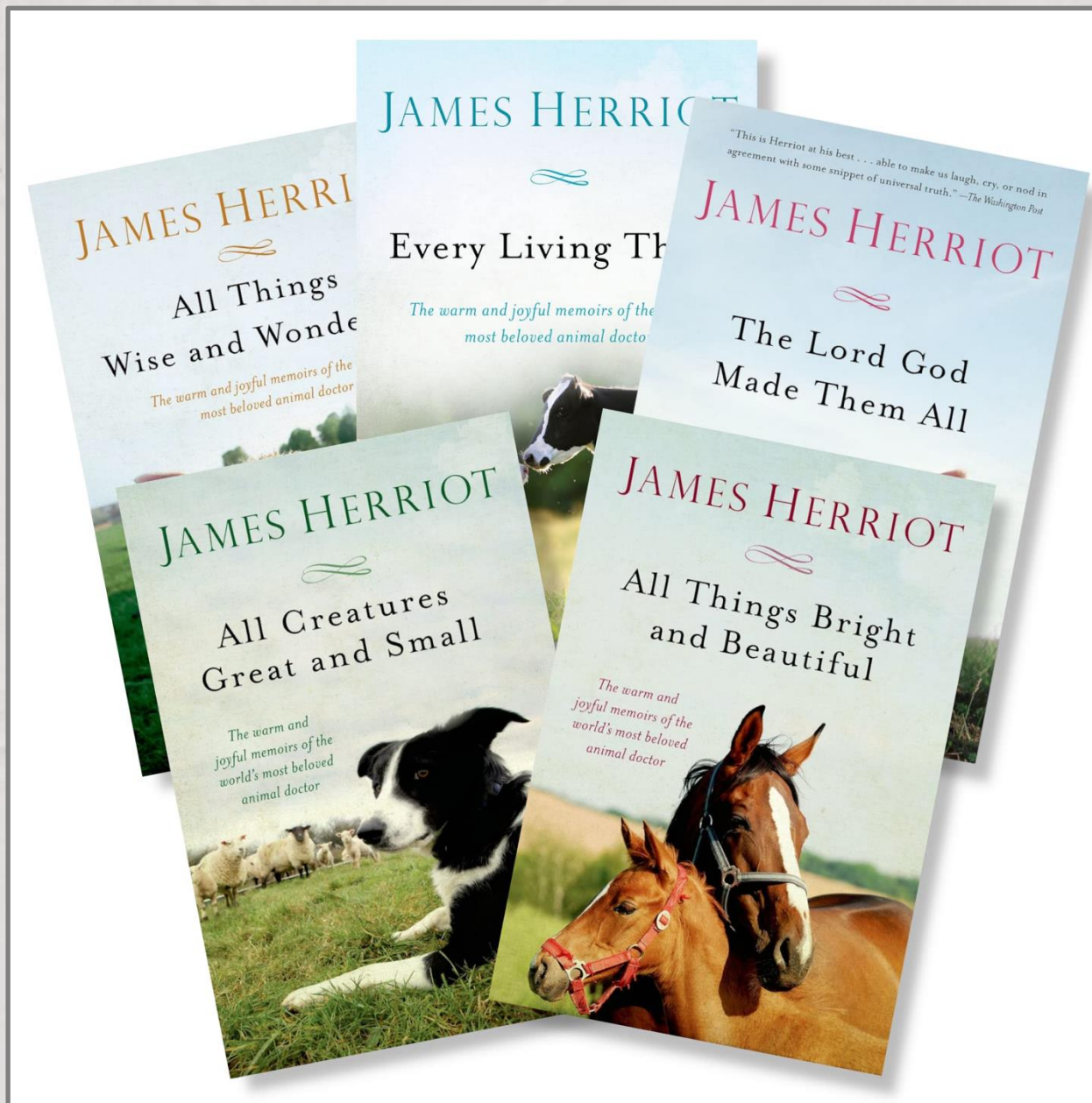
**Philippians 2 CSB**

To expect a spouse to meet your needs, but to suppress their [own] desire, is counter to how we are designed. At its deepest level, every attachment relationship holds two fundamental questions:

- Do my needs matter to you?
- When I reach for you, will you reach back?

You can't build intimacy while refusing to engage with something deeply important to your spouse. – How We Love August 25, 2026





courtesy Amazon

I slid into bed and Helen, instead of shrinking away from me as it would have been natural to do, deliberately draped her feet and legs over the human ice block that was her husband. The bliss was unbelievable. It was worth getting out just to come back to this. – James Herriot,  
*All Things Bright and Beautiful*





**4 My love thrust his hand through the opening,  
and my feelings were stirred for him.**

**5 I rose to open for my love.**

**My hands dripped with myrrh,  
my fingers with flowing myrrh  
on the handles of the bolt.**

**6 I opened to my love,  
but my love had turned and gone away.**

**My heart sank because he had left.**

**I sought him, but did not find him.**

**I called him, but he did not answer.**

**Song of Songs 5 CSB**



I hear the crystal raindrops fall  
On the window down the hall  
And it becomes the morning dew  
And, darling, when the morning comes  
And I see the morning sun  
I wanna be the one with you  
Just the two of us  
We can make it if we try  
Just the two of us  
Building big castles way on high  
Just the two of us  
You and I  
“Just the Two of Us” by Bill Withers  
with William Salter & Ralph MacDonald





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**Song of Songs 5 CSB**



4 My love thrust his hand through the opening,  
and my feelings were stirred for him.



Hebrew: מָחַ HaMu = a general term for longing; not used of sexual stirring. If Greek, this would be *agape* instead of *eros*.

20 Isn't Ephraim a precious son to me [YHWH],  
a delightful child?

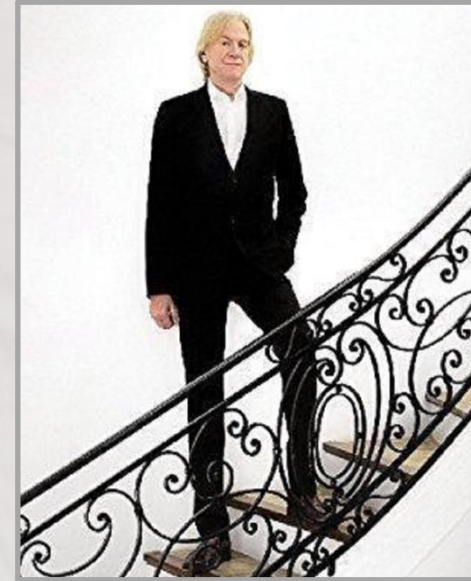
Whenever I speak against him,  
I certainly still think about him.

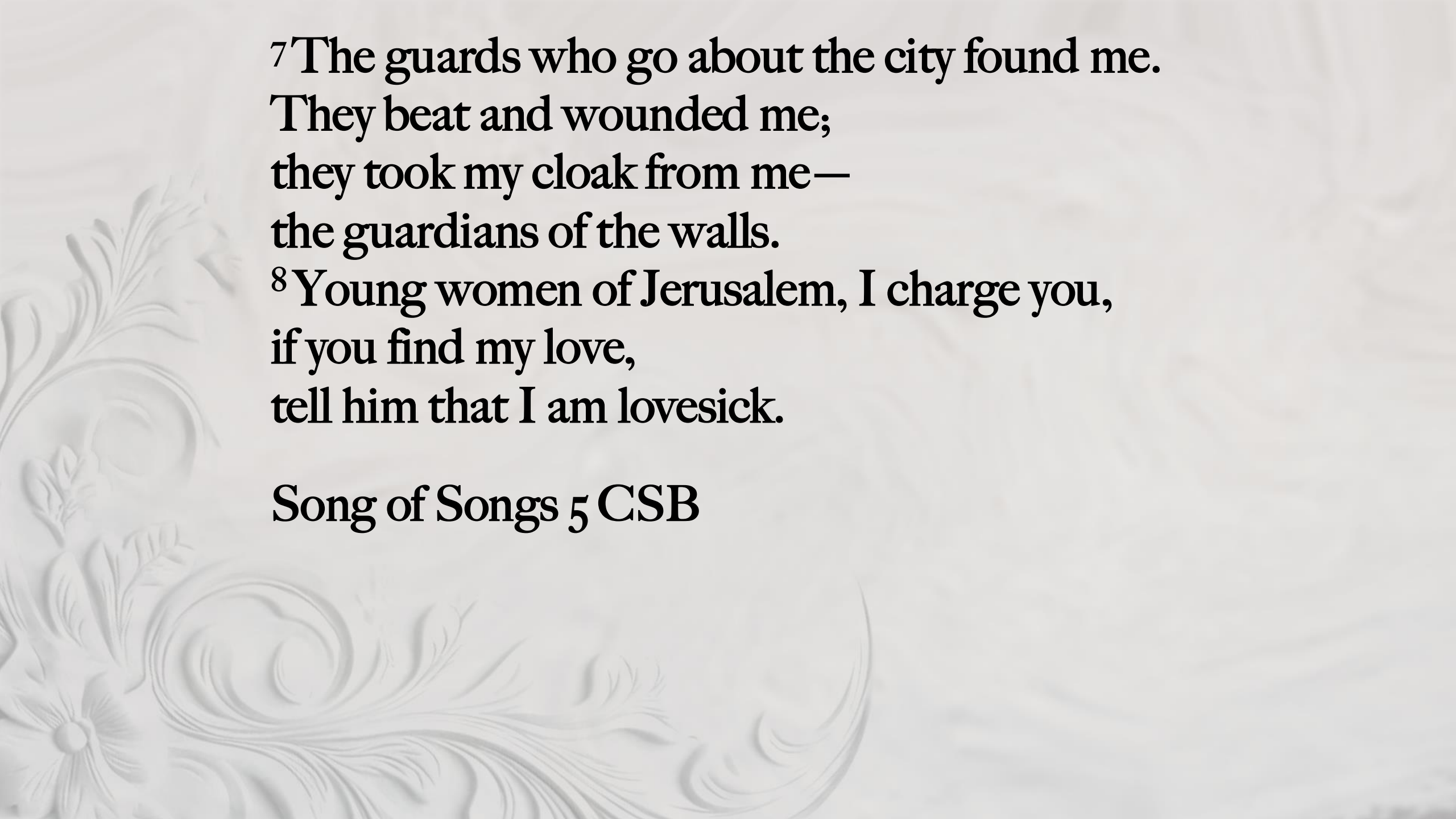
Therefore, my inner being yearns [מָחַ HaMu] for him;  
I will truly have compassion on him.

This is the Lord's declaration.

Jeremiah 31:20 CSB

Once the world was new  
Our bodies felt the morning dew  
That greets the brand-new day  
We couldn't tear ourselves away  
I wonder if you care  
I wonder if you still remember  
Once upon a time  
In your wildest dreams  
"Your Wildest Dreams" by Justin Heyward





<sup>7</sup>The guards who go about the city found me.  
They beat and wounded me;  
they took my cloak from me—  
the guardians of the walls.  
<sup>8</sup>Young women of Jerusalem, I charge you,  
if you find my love,  
tell him that I am lovesick.

Song of Songs 5 CSB

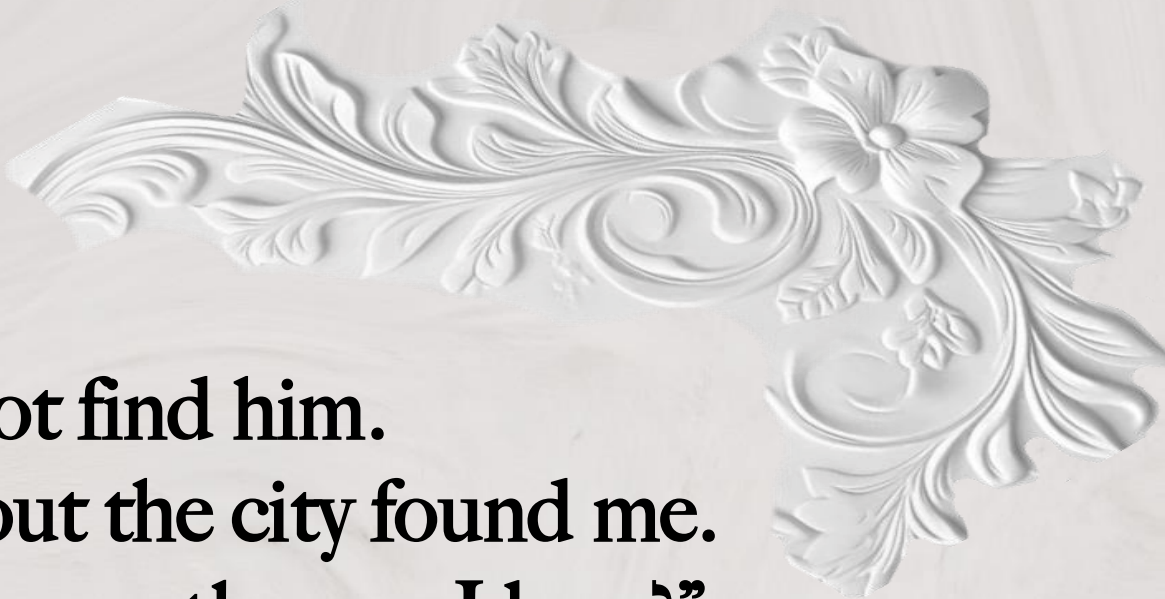


*Young Women*

**<sup>9</sup> What makes the one you love better than another,  
most beautiful of women?**

**What makes him better than another,  
that you would give us this charge?**

**Song of Songs 5 CSB**



<sup>2</sup> I sought him, but did not find him.  
<sup>3</sup> The guards who go about the city found me.  
I asked them, “Have you seen the one I love?”

Song of Songs 3 CSB

<sup>2</sup> I sought him, but did not find him.  
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Song of Songs 3 CSB



<sup>7</sup>The guards who go about the city found me.  
They beat and wounded me;  
they took my cloak from me—  
the guardians of the walls.

Song of Songs 5 CSB



7 The guards who go about the city found me.  
They beat and wounded me;  
they took my cloak from me—  
the guardians of the walls.

Song of Songs 5 CSB





**When I choose convenience over  
connection, I end up without protection  
from the cold of life.**

**<sup>8</sup> Young women of Jerusalem, I charge you,  
if you find my love,  
tell him that I am lovesick.**

***Young Women***

**<sup>9</sup> What makes the one you love better than another,  
most beautiful of women?  
What makes him better than another,  
that you would give us this charge?**

**Song of Songs 5 CSB**

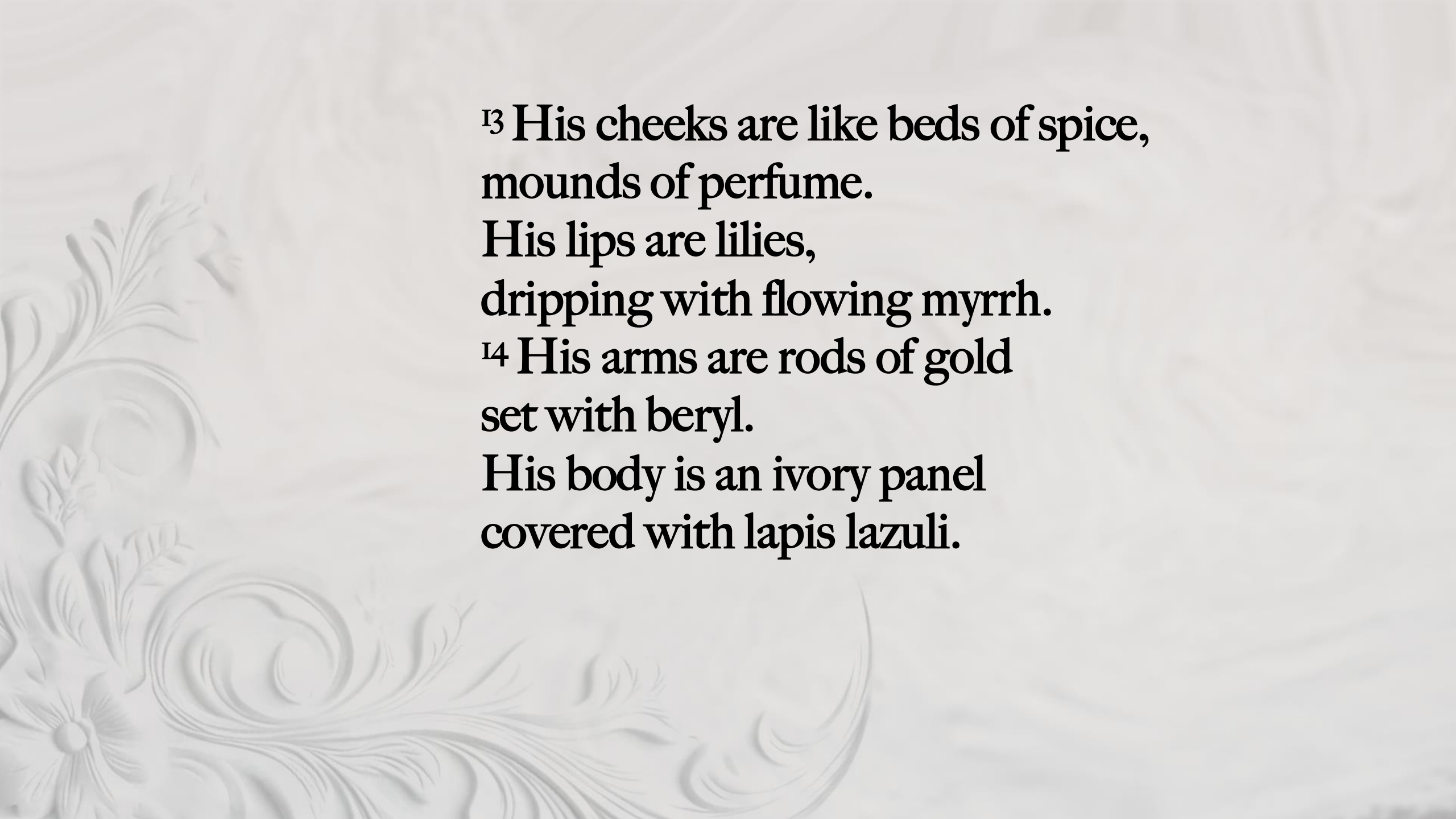
## *Woman*

<sup>10</sup> My love is fit and strong,  
notable among ten thousand.

<sup>11</sup> His head is purest gold.

His hair is wavy  
and black as a raven.

<sup>12</sup> His eyes are like doves  
beside flowing streams,  
washed in milk  
and set like jewels.



<sup>13</sup> His cheeks are like beds of spice,  
mounds of perfume.

His lips are lilies,  
dripping with flowing myrrh.

<sup>14</sup> His arms are rods of gold  
set with beryl.

His body is an ivory panel  
covered with lapis lazuli.

**<sup>15</sup> His legs are alabaster pillars  
set on pedestals of pure gold.  
His presence is like Lebanon,  
as majestic as the cedars.  
<sup>16</sup> His mouth is sweetness.  
He is absolutely desirable.  
This is my love, and this is my friend,  
young women of Jerusalem.**

**Song of Songs 5 CSB**

In appearance his skin was ruddy and in character he was outstanding. The metaphors in verses 10-16 were not meant to be taken as visual comparisons for the most part. They indicate her husband's value and attractiveness.

– Jack Deere, *Song of Songs*

II His head is purest gold.  
His hair is wavy  
and black as a raven.



Hebrew: תַּלְתָּלִים taltalim = like palm branches



courtesy Kris Dunlap



Kris: Hey, buddy!

Reuben: Mom! I got hit by a car.

Kris: I know, sweetheart.

Reuben: What's *your* excuse for a bad hair day?

II His head is purest gold.  
His hair is wavy  
and black as a raven.



Hebrew: תַּלְתָּלִים taltalim = like palm branches

Hebrew: אָדָם. adom = ruddy, as in reddish.

<sup>10</sup> My love is fit and strong,  
notable among ten thousand.



## Things to keep in mind re: flawed biblical co-writers like Solomon:

- God is the ultimate author of all scripture.
- Art is never properly understood when tied too tightly to the fallen human artist. [E.g., you write to me, thinking your ideas are sound and noble. Should I disallow your pen because I know what a stinker you are inside?]
- It is entirely possible that this was written when Solomon was a teenager, right after he married Naamah. (See 2 Chronicles 12:13). Their songs envisioned life ahead before he turned foolish.

<sup>12</sup> His eyes are like doves  
beside flowing streams,  
washed in milk  
and set like jewels.

<sup>13</sup> His cheeks are like beds of spice,  
mounds of perfume.  
His lips are lilies,  
dripping with flowing myrrh.

Song of Songs 5 CSB

- He uses more simile comparison. It's more straightforward.
- He appears to be looking physically and exposing character traits through that. E.g., her "neck like a tower" is a physical reality that speaks to her inner strength.

- She uses more metaphor. It requires more thought to understand.
- She sees his inner traits and layers those onto his body. E.g., his head is not actual gold, but his mind is. Which makes sense, given that he had one of the greatest minds in history.

<sup>16</sup> He is absolutely desirable.  
This is my love, and this is my friend,  
young women of Jerusalem.



<sup>16</sup> He is absolutely desirable.  
This is my love,  
and this is my friend,  
young women of Jerusalem.

courtesy Jessica Anders





courtesy alphcoders

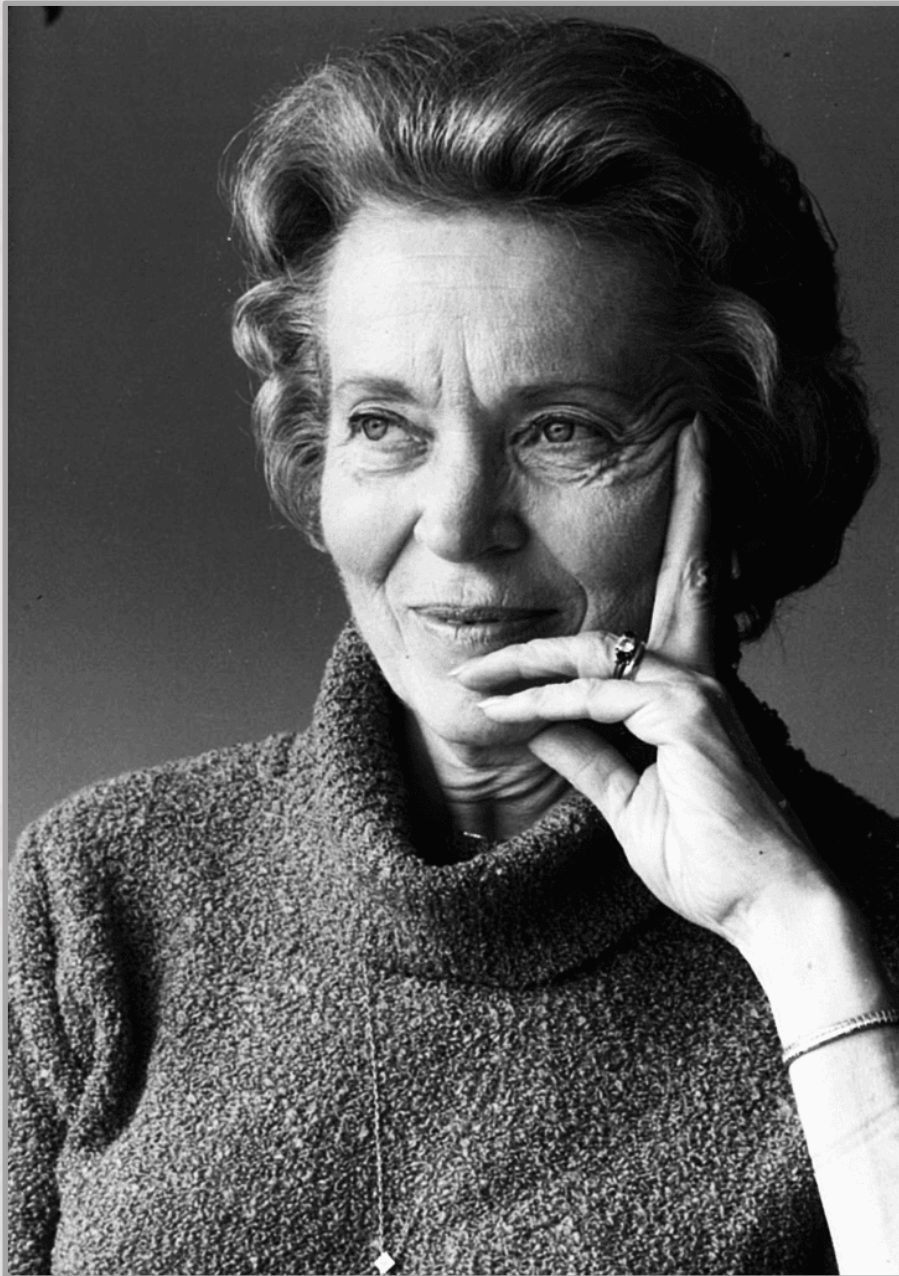
## *Young Women*

<sup>1</sup> Where has your love gone,  
most beautiful of women?  
Which way has he turned?  
We will seek him with you.

## *Woman*

<sup>2</sup> My love has gone down to his garden,  
to beds of spice,  
to feed in the gardens  
and gather lilies.

<sup>3</sup> I am my love's and my love is mine;  
he feeds among the lilies.



**Elizabeth Eliot**



I would give  
anything to hear  
my husband snore.

**Elizabeth Eliot**

## *Young Women*

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most beautiful of women?  
Which way has he turned?  
We will seek him with you.

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Tomorrow mornin', if you wake up  
And the sun does not appear  
I will be here  
If in the dark, we lose sight of love  
Hold my hand, and have no fear  
'Cause I will be here  
I will be true to the promise I have made  
To you and to the One who gave you to me  
And sure as seasons are made for change  
Our lifetimes are made for years  
So I, I will be here  
"I Will Be Here" by Steven Curtis Chapman

<sup>10</sup> Do not fear, for I am with you;  
do not be afraid, for I am your God.  
I will strengthen you; I will help you;  
I will hold on to you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41 CSB

<sup>5</sup> Be satisfied with what you have, for he himself has said,  
*I will never leave you or abandon you.* [*Deut 31*]

<sup>6</sup> Therefore, we may boldly say,  
*The Lord is my helper;*  
*I will not be afraid.*  
*What can man do to me?* [*Ps 118*]

Hebrews 13 CSB

Today (listed in chronological order):

- I was enabled to study scripture and start developing a message for others to grow in it.
- One grandson had surgery.
- I had to oversee some difficult-but-wise work decisions.
- Another grandson was bitten at his school.
- I was able to give some thoughtful responses to questions sent my way.
- Our daughter-in-law sobbed with us because her father passed away suddenly today.
- My sweetheart and I collaborated on how to best serve our kids in their grief.
- I enjoyed a great pot of tea and two cookies a staff member brought from Costa Rica.

## Today (continued):

- I cried with a different staff member who is facing a painful family situation.
- A number of encouraging letters arrived in my inbox.
- One pugnaciously critical letter also arrived.
- A friend agreed to feed our disabled son since we were all out with emergencies at suppertime.
- A pastor needed my input re: a restoration plan for a repentant brother.
- I had supper with the Elders of a church going through an exciting season.
- I grieved over a close friend who has quit on his marriage.
- One of the grandsons called me because he wanted to chat before his bedtime.
- I was enabled to study scripture and finish a message for others to grow in it.

With each and all of those situations, God's Word shows the best response and how that response is empowered.

*Philippians 4<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!*  
*5 Let your graciousness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.*

Working backwards through the text can bring out the enablement:

- The Lord is near. By that grace,
- Everyone can know my graciousness. Ergo,
- I can rejoice.
- Always, I can rejoice. Amen.

A branch with two vibrant red hibiscus flowers and green leaves is positioned behind the word 'LOVE'. The flowers are in sharp focus, contrasting with the soft, textured background.

# LOVE

A SONG OF VIRTUE