

- I) **V1 INTRO: The song of songs, which is Solomon's**
  - a) **BACKGROUND: This book is normally referred to as the Song of Solomon**
    - 1) Actually, it is literally the song of songs, which are the first two words in Ch 1:1
    - 2) Song of Solomon actually gives the more full sense of the book
- II) **ACCORDING TO 1 KI 4:32: Solomon spoke 3,000 proverbs and wrote 1,005 songs**
  - a) He had wisdom, understanding, and largeness of heart beyond understanding (1 Ki 4:29)
    - 1) With this in mind, it is easy to see that this was his greatest hit! It was his song of songs
- III) **SOLOMON: Wrote three books that are contained in the bible (written around 965 BC)**
  - a) He wrote Proverbs in his middle age, Ecclesiastes when aged, and Song of Songs when young
    - 1) It is a book that can be looked at as the premiere book relating to romantic love
- IV) **THIS BOOK: Is a love story that has two main characters**
  - a) **SOLOMON: Whose kingship is mentioned five times (1:4, 12; 3:9, 11; 7:5)**
  - b) **THE SHULAMITE: A woman from a region in the lowest portion of Galilee**
    - 1) Some believe her family was employed by Solomon (8:11) but this is conjecture
- V) **THE FACT IS: It is a love song that exalts the purity of *marital love* and *true romance***
  - a) When viewed from the position of it being a love song, much practical understanding is gained
- VI) **QUESTION: Why should we spend time looking at such a book**
  - a) Aren't people able to *instinctively* just determine whom it is that they are going to marry?
    - 1) What about *love at first sight*: Why make a big deal out of love and romance?
    - 2) I read of a national survey revealing that 48% of men say they believe in love at first sight
    - 3) **FACT IS: Within the first few minutes of meeting a woman, they are actually wondering if they would like to sleep with them**
- VII) **OUR CULTURE: Is absolutely caught up with the idea of Romance**
  - a) This pervades us, sometimes without our even being aware of it
    - 1) I will be channel surfing, and the moment I end up on Lifetime Movie Channel, Marie awakens
    - 2) Love Novels, love songs, soap operas, and movies constantly push the idea of romance
    - 3) Casual sex that leads to love is the overall theme of what is called romance
- VIII) **THIS DEFINITION OF ROMANCE: Creates unrealistic expectations**
  - a) We end up in relationships driven by our hormones, or wishful thinking and get hurt
    - 1) Some end up getting into *serial relationships* that always end up bad
- IX) **THE QUESTION IS: Just what is attractive to you?**
  - a) What is it about a person of the opposite sex that you find to be most appealing?
    - 1) **IMPORTANT: Physical attraction is fine and is the first thing that usually starts a relationship**
    - 2) There has to be a sense that this person is somebody you could spend more time with
    - 3) **MARIE: Something about her just drew me, which *included* her beauty**
- X) **V2 THE SHULAMITE SAYS: Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth**
  - a) **FIRST: There were things about him that attracted her and one was how handsome he was**
    - 1) David was handsome, and his mother Bathsheba was extremely beautiful
- I) **THE SHULAMITE: Was physically attracted to the point of thinking his kisses intoxicated her**

- a) She actually *wanted* Solomon to kiss her, and *longed* for him to do so
  - 1) **ADVICE:** There is nothing wrong with kissing, but it isn't to be some kind of sport
  - 2) Kissing on the first date is something that is to be avoided as it moves the relationship too fast
  
- II) V3 BECAUSE: Of the fragrance of your good ointments your name is ointment poured forth
  - a) **SECOND:** He even smelled good, which indicates that *he was clean* and took care of his appearance
    - 1) At this time, men did not bathe that often, but used scented oils
    - 2) This kept their skin from drying out in the hot sun, and gave them a pleasing fragrance
  
- III) **OBVIOUSLY:** When beginning a relationship, being clean and smelling good doesn't hurt
  - a) I had a friend in the Army who wouldn't use deodorant because he didn't want to get into the habit
    - 1) B.O. isn't very attractive, and bad dental hygiene is not going to win many dates
  
- IV) V3 YET: Notice how she says to him *Your name* is ointment poured forth
  - a) **THIRD:** This was a man with a handsome physical appearance *overshadowed by his reputation*
    - 1) Eccl 7:1 *A good name* is better than precious ointment
    - 2) What seems to be attractive to her is *his character* (this makes him trustworthy, safe)
  
- V) **KEY:** Notice how it says Therefore *the virgins* love you
  - a) His character is revealed because he could be trusted with a *woman's purity*
    - 1) **IN DATING:** Some men see a *woman's virtue* as a prize to be won
    - 2) Solomon treats women with courtesy and respect (Sophie told me men open doors for ladies)
  
- VI) **IF YOU WANT:** A relationship that is strong *look for character*, not outward appearance
  - a) **KEY:** Look for someone who has a reputation for loving the Lord, and treating others well
    - 1) Pr 31:30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised.
    - 2) Jimmy Soul: If you want to be happy for the rest of your life Never make a pretty woman your wife So from my personal point of view Get an ugly girl to marry you  
Don't let your friends say you have no taste Go ahead and marry anyway Though her face is ugly her eyes don't match Take it from me she's a better catch
  
- VII) **HERE:** Initial attraction has two basic elements
  - a) There is the physical, and there is the character/spiritual
    - 1) **INCIDENTALLY:** In the character element, being a Christian is the basis of this
    - 2) 2 Co 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?
    - 3) Not just in word, but in practice (which you will discover on the first few dates)
  
- VIII) V3 AGAIN: All the virgins love you (Virgins represent women of pure character: believers)
  - a) This is a person with such a good reputation that solid Christians would love to date them
  
- IX) V3 KEY: Solomon's reputation was good, like ointment: this ointment was made from olive oil
  - a) Olive oil is the result of olives being pressed: What comes out when they are under pressure
    - 1) Ask yourself if this is what you want to live with for the rest of your life
  
- I) **HOW DO YOU DISCOVER TRUE CHARACTER:** When you are developing a relationship

- a) **IT IS REVEALED:** By how they act when under *pressure*
  - 1) Do they get angry easily, or become pushy or sullen: do they exercise self-control?
  
- II) **V4 NOTICE:** *Lead me away*
  - a) **THIS IS THE ONE:** You would love bringing home to meet the family or bring to church
    - 1) This is the one you would be blessed to be asked out by!
  
- III) **IMPORTANT:** When it comes to genuine romance, dating isn't just a thing you do because you're bored
  - a) While it is true that when you are very young, you are not going to necessarily marry your first date
    - 1) **STILL:** The question could be asked: why date someone you would not want to marry?
  
- IV) **V4 THE KING:** Has brought me into his chambers
  - a) **LITERALLY:** This can be translated May the king draw me into his chambers
    - 1) In her heart, she desires to be close to him and to be loved by him, and to marry him
  
- V) **V5 I AM DARK:** But lovely O daughters of Jerusalem, like the tents of Kedar, like to curtains of
  - a) The tents were made of black wool, and Solomon's curtains were deep purple in color
    - 1) She was not a woman who needed constant attention, being told how beautiful she was
    - 2) Not all men are good at communicating these kinds of things, but she was self-aware
  
- VI) **V6 DO NOT:** Look upon me because I am dark because the sun has tanned me
  - a) **THE INTERESTING THING IS:** How she became sun darkened
    - 1) The way she got tanned was her brothers had her working in the fields
    - 2) Under ordinary conditions, she would have taken better care of her skin
  
- VII) **FACT:** Though it was not of her choosing, she was obedient to the authority that was over her
  - a) **KEY:** Her character was revealed by her willing submission to authority
    - 1) It was to proper authority that she yielded: her family had that role in her life
  
- VIII) **THIS IS WHERE SOME GET CONFUSED:** They expect their girlfriends/boyfriends to submit
  - a) When you are dating, you are still under the authority of your parents
    - 1) Submission to one another belongs in marriage, not in dating relationships
    - 2) Anybody who demands complete attention, service, and accountability is to be avoided
  
- IX) **THIS WOMAN WAS HARDWORKING:** And she was under proper authority
  - a) Anyone who rejects human authority has already made it a habit to reject God's, too!
    - 1) The woman will reject submission to her husband; the man will reject submitting to God
  
- X) **QUESTION:** What you want in your future spouse
  - a) Do you want someone who loves Jesus, has a servant's heart, is under authority, honest, loving, respectful, moral, and has a good reputation
    - 1) Physical beauty is fine, but character is a must: Marie and her curling iron scab
  
- XI) **V7 TELL ME:** O you whom I love where you feed your flock where you make it rest at noon
  - a) **VEILS HERSELF:** In Solomon's time, those who veiled themselves at noon were prostitutes
    - 1) **POINT:** She would not compromise her walk in any way just to get married

- I) **KEY: You are ready when you do not have to make compromises in your relationship to God**
  - a) **You do not lower the bar, just because your biological clock is ticking away**
    - 1) **If you are being tempted or pressured to do something you know is wrong, don't do it**
    - 2) **Christian guys sometimes go so far as to use scripture to convince girls to sin**
  
- II) **IF THEY: Make fun of your faith, your friends, your church, your bible reading, your service: Leave**
  - a) **What you need is someone who builds up, not tears down**
  
- III) **FACT: You are ready for marriage when you are not anxious for marriage and are willing to be single**
  - a) **You know it is better to be single than to be married to someone who does not love the Lord**
    - 1) **If you just want somebody, you will settle for anybody!**
  
- IV) **V8 IF YOU: Do not know O fairest among women follow in the footsteps of the flock and feed**
  - a) **Solomon praises her for being the most beautiful and lovely woman around**
    - 1) **She just does not realize what a prize she is about to have, when she and he are married**
  
- V) **FOLLOW: The footsteps of the flock and feed your little goats beside the shepherds' tents**
  - a) **TO ENJOY HIS LOVE: All she needs to do is continue in the way that she is living**
    - 1) **Retain your innocence, and retain your character, and do not move away from them**
    - 2) **The result will be you will have the love of your life**