

Song of Solomon 5

Jesus

I. Heaven Smiles

The Beloved

1 I have come to my garden, my sister, my spouse; I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk.

- Honeymoon night/Marriage consummated/**Another voice speaks**
Not the voice of Condemnation/ **Voice of Joyful Commendation...**

1b... Eat, O friends! Drink, yes, drink deeply, O beloved ones!

- **Voice of God:** Rejoicing His thoughtful/considerate gift has been thoroughly enjoyed

[God] lifts his voice and gives hearty approval to the entire night. He vigorously endorses and affirms the love of this couple. He takes pleasure in what has taken place." [Glickman]

God rejoices when His kids rejoice in His blessings

- **God rejoices:** His Holy/Sanctified gift of sex gives His kids joy in Marital Relationship
- **Heaven rejoices:** Sinner enjoys God's beautiful gift of Salvation

Luke 15:10... there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

There is a mutual rejoicing between God and man when we align ourselves with His plan [NJC]

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

SUMMARY Heaven Smiles

II. Honeymoon is Over

Or **Mind Games Begin** or **Well that didn't Take Long** or **What did you Expect** or **Trouble in Paradise?**

The Shulamite [Player #1]

2 I sleep, but my heart is awake; It is the voice of my beloved! He knocks, saying, "Open for me, my sister, my love, My dove, my perfect one

- Bride sleeps/Beloved is away: Working, Hunting?
- Bride hears Him at the door asking her to open
- He speaks politely/ He has coffee/ All she knows is **he took too long...**
 1. My Sister?
 2. My Love?
 3. My Dove?

4. My Perfect One?

Still no response from the bride...He tries a different approach

[Open...] For my head is covered with dew, My locks with the drops of the night."

- If my sweet words won't get you up... how about **I'm freezing/Let me in**

3 [Bride] I have taken off my robe; How can I put it on again? I have washed my feet; How can I defile them?

What? What happened to "My love is better than wine?"

- **Initially excited as she waited:**

1. My heart is awake/can't sleep because he's gone
2. I hear the voice of My Beloved yet when he arrives...**she "acts" Frustrated**

Why did you take so long to come home?

Thinks to herself: Maybe I can use this to my benefit?

- **Ancient Mind Games:** Getting the upper hand through mental manipulation

1. Bride has become lazy/too comfortable
2. Bride is already taking marriage for granted
3. Bride begins to think...

**How can I get the most out of this relationship instead of how can I bless him?
Let the Games begin!**

Playing mind games is the largely conscious struggle for psychological one-upmanship, often employing passive-aggressive behavior to specifically demoralize or dis-empower the thinking subject, making the aggressor look superior; also referred to as power games and head games.

- **Demonic:** Self exaltation
- **Deceitful:** Emotional Manipulation rather than truth
- **Destructive...**

**Mind Games/Manipulation are Opposite of everything Jesus is
Holy/True/Life-Giving**

- **Player#1** the Bride is being deceitful. Wants him but acting frustrated. Won't get up...

4 My beloved put his hand By the latch of the door, And my heart yearned for him. 5 I arose to open for my beloved, And my hands dripped with myrrh, My fingers with liquid myrrh, On the handles of the lock. 6 I opened for my beloved, But my beloved had turned away and was gone. My **heart leaped** up when he spoke. I sought him, but **I could not find him**; I called him, but he gave me no answer.

- Bride hears him jiggle the door...then footsteps moving away then silence
- **Player #2 Beloved is up. Make his move. He leaves**

Analogy of Christ and His Bride breaks down here...

1. Jesus will not leave His bride

Hebrews 13:5 "For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

2. Jesus does not play games...we do...

**Jesus says what He means/means what He says. Does what He says
He will not leave us...He never moves...we do**

- She has overplayed her hand/He reacted rather than acted by Holy Spirit
- **Both are miserable**

**Why didn't she respond in Truth/Love when he arrived...?
She opened the door for the devil instead of her husband**

- **He [devil] is waiting at the door of every marriage**
- She wants "guilt capital" to use later...Remember when you took you so long?

Genesis 3:16 [God to Eve] Your desire shall be for your husband And he shall rule over you."

- Two things we need to be self-aware of in marriage. Undeniable facts from the fall
 1. Wife's sinful [natural] desire will be to usurp your husband as Spiritual Leader
 2. Husbands sinful [natural] desire will be to react harshly and abruptly.
- Our marriages need to be supernatural to endure these temptations...

Genesis 4:7b... [God to Cain] ... if you do not do well [heed My voice] , sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, **but you should rule over it.**"

For her now it's about her. For him it is all about him: Well, if she's not going to get up....

- **Yet it didn't have to go down this way...**
 1. Her heart yearned for him/Longed for him
 2. Her heart leaped when she heard Him try to open. She could have responded

Instead, she tried to manipulate the situation to her advantage/Make him grovel
She ends up wandering around the city...alone again

- Every marriage should enjoy Ch. 4 the Honeymoon
- The pain of Ch. 5 can be reduced/eliminated as we choose to die to self

...or we will end up emotionally battered/bloody/confused

7 [Bride] The watchmen who went about the city found me. They struck me, they wounded me; The keepers of the walls Took my veil away from me.

- **How did playing games work for your marriage?**

1. Disrespect/Disillusion
2. Disgrace/Distance
3. Divorce

Just be honest. We are just two messed up people apart from Jesus. He is the glue that keeps us together as we daily die to self and live unto His Spirit within our marriage. [NJC]

Distance began by disregarding the voice at the door...
What happens when don't respond to God? Shut down His voice?

- **End up wounded...**

1. Our Actions/Inaction grieves God's Spirit
2. Our rebellion opens the door to Satan...

Ephesians 4:25 [Put away...] lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another. 26 "Be angry, and do not sin": **do not let the sun go down on your wrath, 27 nor give place to the devil.**

- Battered and bruised/No w/no direction/No hope

All because we did not respond like big boys when God spoke but played games

Ephesians 4:1 ...walk worthy of the calling with which you were called

Colossians 1:10 ... walk worthy of the Lord fully pleasing Him...

1 Thessalonians 2:12 ... walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom/glory.

God calls us to grow up in our relationships

Act like Spiritual Adults...by taking Personal Responsibility

- **Neither are:** Both are playing games. Blame game/Head Games. There is no winner

8 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, If you find my beloved, That you tell him I am lovesick!

- **Lovesick:**

1. **Not as before:** Overwhelmed by love
2. Here sick because she cannot find Him

Spurgeon described this second type of lovesickness in this way: "It is the longing of a soul, then, not for salvation, and not even for the certainty of salvation, but for the enjoyment of present fellowship with him who is her soul's life, her soul's all... It is a panting after communion." [Spurgeon]

SUMMARY Honeymoon is Over

III. Permission to Speak? Walk the Walk or Shut Your Mouth

- After throwing him out...tell her friends they need to find him? Their answer...?

The Daughters of Jerusalem

9 What is your beloved More than another beloved, O fairest among women?
What is your beloved More than another beloved, That you so charge us?

- **Nothing quite like pagans rebuking us for hypocrisy**

1. If he means so much to you why are you acting like this toward him
2. If Jesus is so great...why are you doing the things He hated

Why do you think you have anything to say to us?

- People see how we treat Jesus/If we really **listen/do what He says...**

1. Honesty or Deceitfulness
2. Integrity or Wishy washiness
3. Morality or Crudeness
4. Uplifting Conversations or Complaining/Gossiping
5. Courage or Fear: Faith or Unbelief/Big or small God

When they hear Godliness from my mouth and see wickedness in my life, I point them to heaven...**but lead them to hell** [Anonymous?]

Why do you think you have anything to say to us? Walk the walk or shut up.

- **Repents:** Exemplified by focusing on his goodness to her friends...

The Shulamite

10 My beloved is white and ruddy, Chief among ten thousand.

- **Remembers:** All that she was attracted to at the start/should have never left
- **There is no one like Him:** Analogy of Jesus/Bride begins against

11 His head is like the finest gold; His locks are wavy, And black as a raven.
12 His eyes are like doves By the rivers of waters, Washed with milk, And fitly set.
13 His cheeks are like a bed of spices, Banks of scented herbs. His lips are lilies, Dripping liquid myrrh.
14 His hands are rods of gold Set with beryl. His body is carved ivory Inlaid with sapphires.
15 His legs are pillars of marble Set on bases of fine gold. His countenance is like Lebanon, Excellent as the cedars.
16 His mouth is most sweet, Yes, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, And this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem!

Instead of thinking of herself, she started thinking of her beloved. Instead of wanting her comfort and convenience, she desired to nurture the relationships she had started to take for granted." [Estes]

- Counts our blessings/meditate on His sacrifice for us...
1. **Head** Covered with a Crown of Thorns
 2. **Hair** Mingled with blood
 3. **Eyes** Compassionate/Loving

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| 4. Cheeks | Scared by pulling out of His beard |
| 5. Lips | Speaking Words of forgiveness/mercy |
| 6. Hands | Still having hole from nails though love held Him on the cross |

Revelation 1:5... To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood... 7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they **who pierced Him.**

Revelation 5:6 ... and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as **though it had been slain...** **12b** ... Worthy is the Lamb **who was slain** To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!

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|-----------------------|---|
| 7. Body | Beaten and Bruised for our healing |
| 8. Legs | Unbroken fulfilling prophesy |
| 9. Countenance | Face like flint now smiling at the joy set before Him |
| 10. Mouth | Promising New Life eternally w/ Him |

Yes, He is altogether lovely. This is my Beloved
And this is my Friend, O daughters of Jerusalem

Bride meditates/remembers/ponders on why she loved Him ...asks what happened?
What caused the separation?

Revelation 2:4 ...I have this against you, that you have **left your first love.** 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and **do the first works**

The extent of experiencing the pain of Ch. 5 is up to both [100% from each] dying to self...**just like you did in Ch 4**

▪ **Remember how in Love you were?**

1. **Obedience to His Word:** Not as the Bride. Delayed obedience is disobedience
2. **Faith in His Promises:** Not just going about our day
3. **Expectation of His Intervention:** We don't pray to the air by a loving big God
4. **Joy in His priorities:** Jesus/Other/You

Have we become too lazy/too comfortable/taking our relationship for granted?
Remember when you first met Jesus and do the things you did

▪ **Walk the Walk motivated by selfless love/empowered by His Spirit**

Romans 12:9... Let **love be without hypocrisy.** Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. 10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; 13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

- Love for God exemplified in our **love for one another**
- **God hates head games...**

Matthew 5:37 ... let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

James 5:12 ... let your "Yes" be "Yes," and your "No," "No," lest you fall into judgment.

- We as Christians should **bring integrity to every relationship...**

Say what you mean and mean what you say.

Do what you say you are going to do so people will want to know Jesus

- **Our right walk gives us permission to talk**

- This is Who He is more than all others...

1. He lived for me/He died for me
2. He rose for me/He sustains me
3. He will take me home

Yes, He is altogether lovely. This is my Beloved

This is my Friend, O daughters of Jerusalem! ...do you want to know Him?

SUMMARY Permission to Speak Walk the Walk or Shut Your Mouth