

Song of Solomon 1 Song of Songs

Jesus

- **Song of Solomon/Song of Songs:** Called the Holy of Holies of the OT...

Not everyone is permitted inside its secret enclosure. Here is where you are dwelling in the secret place of the Most High...**take off your shoes** [JV McGee]

- Not a narrative but a **song written by Solomon**
 1. Author of Proverbs/Ecclesiastes/Song of Solomon
 2. Wrote 3000 Proverbs/1005 Songs [1 Kings 4:32]

This is the Song of Songs: Solomons Best Song...Greatest Hit... #1 on Billboard charts

- **AKA Canticles;** songs within a song. Contains 5 individual Songs w/in the Song
- **PG 13:** Ancient Israelites were *not even allowed to read* until **30 years old**
- **Why?** Very suggestive language regarding a love relationship between a husband and wife
- Danger of perverting the intent of the book from love to lust
- **Song is Poetic yet Practical:** Spurgeon preached 59 Sermons from this book
- **Allegories/Pictures found in this Book:**
 1. Love of God for Israel
 2. Love of a Husband/Wife
 3. Love of Christ for Individuals
 4. Love of Christ for the Church His Bride/ Her love for Him

Ephesians 5:31 ... a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning **Christ and the church.**

- Church is a mystery not found in the Old Testament/ Pictures of the church are
- **Book is an Antiphony:** Responsive alteration between singing groups
 1. **Bride AKA the Shulamite**
 2. **Bridegroom AKA Solomon**
 3. **Daughters of Jerusalem**

The chief speakers are not Solomon and the Shulamite... but **Christ and His Church.** [Trapp]

What we all need today is a real living burning passion for the Person of Jesus Christ [JV McGee]

- Story of Shulamite family living in hills of Ephraim
- Brothers send sister out to field and to take care of sheep [Cinderella?]
- **Tending sheep:** Disheveled and burn by the sun when Handsome Shepherd King appears...

Song of Solomon 3:6 Who is this coming out of the wilderness Like pillars of smoke, Perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, With all the merchant's fragrant powders? 7 Behold, it is Solomon's couch, With sixty valiant men around it, Of the valiant of Israel.

- **He woos her accepting her as she is...She gave Him her heart**

The fact that the “greatest of all songs” focuses on romance and marital love shows us what a high regard God has for the institution of marriage. We might expect that the Songs of Songs be a song that only praises God...instead [it is] one that celebrates love and sensuality within marriage. [Guzik]

Interesting: Emphasis/Importance God places on our understanding the love relationship of Christ/Bride

Our Salvation is a Love Story

A Father sending the Spirit to earth to seek out a Bride for His Son...seek us out

- **Wooring** us Spirit calls us to Jesus. We are supernaturally drawn to Him.
- **Encouraging** us Spirit sends people w/ Good News of His love.
- **Saving** us Taste the Lord is good. We give ourselves wholly to Jesus
- **Sanctifying** us Become more like Him. Looking more like Him as time goes by
- **Loving** us Culminated/Consummated Jesus taking us home Father’s house

The Gospel is a love story that an unbeliever cannot understand but only view from the outside in...a love story of a Husband dying for His bride in order to live with her for eternity...[NJC]

1 Peter 1:12 [This incomprehensible love speaks of...]—things which angels desire to look into.

I know of no book that is going to draw you closer to Him and be more personable than this little book will be. [JV McGee]

Song of Solomon I

Jesus

I. Author

1 The song of songs, which is Solomon’s.

- **Canticles:** 5 songs in 1
- **Solomon** the Writer
 1. **3rd King of Israel:** Saul, David, Solomon
 2. Wisest man who ever lived...

1 Kings 4:32 He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs were one thousand and five. 33 Also he spoke of trees, from the cedar tree of Lebanon even to the hyssop that springs out of the wall; he spoke also of animals, of birds, of creeping things, and of fish. 34 And men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, **came to hear the wisdom of Solomon.**

- **Interesting Guy:** King, Scientist, Botanist, Zoologist, Entrepreneur, Song writer as dad King David
- Intro: This is Solomon’s Song. His Song of Songs...**His best song**

II. The Banquet

The Shulamite [lit. the Perfect or the Peaceful]

2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth—For **your love is better than wine**. 3 Because of the fragrance of your good ointments, **Your name is ointment poured forth**

Hit the ground running. Shulamite Bride speaks of Bridegroom
Your Love is Better than Wine!

- **Jesus first miracle was at a wedding:** Turned water into wine [Joy]
- Jesus love for us is better than wine...
 1. **His love is Constant** Does not fluctuate for any reason
 2. **His Love is Unconditional** Loved us while we were yet sinners
 3. **His Love is Eternal** Never ending; does not fade with time
 4. **His Love is Inseparable...**

Romans 8:38 ... I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- [Spurgeon] **Christ's love is better than wine because unlike wine...**
 1. It is totally safe, and may be taken without question – you can't take too much
 2. It doesn't cost anything
 3. Taking more of it does not diminish the taste of it
 4. It is totally without impurities and will never turn sour
 5. It produces no ill effects
- **Christ's love is better than wine because ...**
 1. Like wine, the love of Christ has healing properties
 2. Like wine, the love of Christ is associated with giving strength
 3. Like wine, the love of Christ is a symbol of joy
 4. Like wine, the love of Christ exhilarates the soul
- **Shulamite:** Your love my husband is better than wine...

Your Name is Ointment Poured Out!

- **Ointment** [Fragrant Oil]
 1. His fragrance would stay with her/upon her... even after they part
 2. **Speaking His Name** cause her temp to rise releasing His fragrance to those near her

2 Corinthians 2:1 [We are to diffuse] ... the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.

- Your Love is Better than wine
- Your Name is Fragrant Ointment poured Out...

3b... Therefore, the virgins love you. **4 Draw me away!**

Draw me!

- God's wooing of His OT wife Israel...**drawing them away** from Idols

Hosea 11:4 I drew them with gentle cords, with bands of love, And I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. **I stooped and fed them.**

- God's continues to woo/call His NT Bride the Church...**drawing us out of the world** to Himself

John 6:44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the...

- **Draw Me Away!** Fly away to be alone with Him...

Psalms 55:5 Fearfulness and trembling have come upon me, and horror has overwhelmed me. 6 So I said, "Oh, that I had wings like a dove! I would fly away and be at rest. [He has put turning in our heart]"

- Your Love is Better than Wine/Your Name is Fragrant Ointment Poured Out
- **Draw me away!**

Even now we are positionally seated with Christ in the Heavens far above the world
Are we living like it...or is worrying Keeping us bound to This Earth?

The Daughters of Jerusalem: New group friends of the Shulamite Bride

4b... We will **run after you.**

- Paul said follow Me even as I follow Christ...
- Friends of the Bride want to see what the Bride is bragging about...

The Shulamite

4c... The king has brought me into his chambers.

- King invites His spotless Bride into His Regal abode...

Psalms 45:13 The royal daughter is all glorious within the palace; Her clothing is woven with gold. 14 She shall be brought to the King in robes of many colors; The virgins, her companions who follow. 15 With gladness and rejoicing they shall be brought; **They shall enter the King's palace.**

- Jesus has been preparing our Bridal chamber for 2000+ years... six days for heaven and earth

John 14:2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to **prepare a place for you.** ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that **where I am, there you may be also.**

- The Bride knows what is to come and can't wait. Husband expressing His love to her forever...

Philippians 3:20 ... our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also **eagerly wait** for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ...

Ephesians 2:7 [That] ... in the ages to come [God] might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

- Bride is making onlookers Jealous of her...of the love her husband is showing her
- The church is to make Israel jealous that they might seek after God

Romans 11:11b... But through [Israel's] fall, to **provoke them to jealousy**, salvation has come to the Gentiles. [Church especially Rapture]

The Daughters of Jerusalem

4d... We will be glad and rejoice in you. We will **remember your love** more than wine.

- Friends recognize the Bride's love for her Husband...**see it in her actions**

John 14:15 If you love Me, keep My commandments.

- The Bride makes herself ready for her Husband...

Revelation 19:7 [Multitudes in Heaven] Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the **marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.**" 8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

- The world will recognize our love for Jesus by our lives...**not our words**
- **Especially one thing.** Keep my command... love Me by loving one another

John 13:35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

- **Friends take notice of their love relationship...**

When we love one another, the world will take notice and forsake their wine for a love better than wine [NJC]

Talk is cheap...Actions take sacrifice [NJC]

It's not who you are underneath, it's **what you do that defines you.** [Rachel Dawes]

- Daughters of Jerusalem/ Friends to the Bride:

We can see your love is better than wine...He is Something!

The Shulamite

4e... Rightly do they love you.

- **Rightly do they love You:** Respect for her husband expressed toward friends...

Though it is common – in the words of a modern film – for women to select a man for who he almost is, or to choose him for the man she can make him to be, this is unwise. An unmarried woman should ask herself the serious question: "Can I genuinely respect this man as he is right now? Do I respect him enough to submit to him the way the Bible says a wife should submit?" The maiden of the Song of Solomon had already asked and answered this question. [Guzik]

5 I am dark, but lovely, O daughters of Jerusalem, Like the tents of Kedar, Like the curtains of Solomon. 6 Do not look upon me, because I am dark, Because the sun has tanned me. My mother's sons were angry with me; They made me the keeper of the vineyards, But **my own vineyard I have not kept.**

- Shulamite's skin became dark working in the Vineyard
- A right relationship with Jesus begins with God's call/Self Evaluation

Do not look upon me...because I am Dark

- Relationship w/ Jesus begins w/ sober self-evaluation... I am a sinner...

Romans 3:23 ... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

Ephesians 5:8 ...you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light...**11** And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness...

- Its hard not to get dirty as walk/work in the Vineyard of this world. We will always sin...

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to **forgive us our sins** and to **cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

- Those forgiven much love much... Jesus took our darkness on the Cross...

Isaiah 1:18b... Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.

- I am dark from working in the vineyard
- My brothers got mad/make me keep the Vineyard so **my own I have not kept up...**

**I kind of let myself go...allowed darkness into my life?
Maybe it's time to confess and clean the slate?**

7 Tell me, **O you whom I love**, Where you feed your flock, Where you make it rest at noon.

- She seeks him but not until after he sought her...

Romans 3:11 There is none who understands; There is **none who seeks after God.**

- **Yet...**God sought us before we are able to seek Him

Ephesians 1:4 ... He **chose us in Him before** the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love

1 John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that **He loved us** and sent His Son to be the propitiation [complete payment] for our sins.

1 John 4:19 We love Him **because He first loved us.** [All past tense]

- **How did He love us first?**

Romans 5:8 ... God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were still**

sinner, **Christ died for us.**

Revelation 1:5 Jesus Christ...the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who **loved us and washed us** from our sins in His own blood...

- Since He sought us first, we know He will finish what He started...

Philippians 1:6 He who has begun a good work in you will **complete it** until the day of Jesus Christ...

- **Q.** Where can He be found **A.** In His Word/Prayer/Fellowship/Worship
- **Shulamite:** Tell Me where you are going. I follow You...

7b... For why should I be as one who veils herself By the flocks of your companions?

- Why should I be a veiled [sign of prostitute looking for anyone]
- I am only looking for a certain One...Where can I find You! **To whom shall I go?** [Peter]

Will you reject me because I am unkempt/frayed/messy/shabby/ disheveled?

The Beloved [Finally speaking]

8 If you do not know, O fairest among women, Follow in the footsteps of the flock, And feed your little goats Beside the shepherds' tents. 9 I have compared you, my love, To my filly among Pharaoh's chariots. 10 Your cheeks are lovely with ornaments, Your neck with chains of gold.

**Expecting to be rejected the Beloved lavishes her with praise
Fairest among Women... I see you differently than You see yourself**

- **Fairest: Beautiful;** rt. To be bright
- **Compared to his most prize horse...**best of the best.
- **NOTE:** Ancient compliments don't always translate well to English [rest of book as well]

The Daughters of Jerusalem

11 We will make you ornaments of gold With studs of silver.

- **Friends want to make sure she's at her best for Him. They help her accessorize**

This is one reason why it is important to a woman that her man **treat her well, and treat her well in public.** She instinctively understands that others will treat her better if they see that her man values her and treats her well. [Guzik]

The Shulamite

12 While the king is at his table, My spikenard sends forth its fragrance. 13 A bundle of myrrh is my beloved to me, That lies all night between my breasts. 14 My beloved is to me a cluster of henna blooms In the vineyards of En Gedi.

- **Lots of smells going on between these two:** Spikenard/Myrrh/Henna

Sense of Smell throughout Scripture. Beautiful Gift from our Creator...

1. Everyone has a unique odor-identity similar to a fingerprint — no two people smell the same way
2. The human brain can process roughly 10,000 different smells in an area the size of a postage stamp.
3. A woman's sense of smell is much stronger than men.
4. A person's sense of smell is weakest in the morning and the ability to perceive odor increases throughout the day.
5. 80 percent of what we taste is qualified by our sense of smell. This is why taste is diminished during a cold or flu.
6. Prolonged exposure to unpleasant smells can actually impair your ability to smell.
7. Smell has a very powerful link to memory and links to emotional regions of brain more directly than other senses.
8. Our sense of smell is strongest in the spring/summer/due to added moisture in the air. It is also stronger after exercising because of the additional moisture in the nasal cavity.
9. Scent works in the opposite direction of other senses. With sight, sound and taste, we identify the information first and then react emotionally. With scents, we have emotional reaction first/then identify scent shortly thereafter.
10. People remember smells with 65 percent accuracy after a year, visual recall is about 50 percent after 3 months.

1. **Anointing Oil** was a sweet-smelling aroma to the Priest/Kings [Ex. 30]
2. **OT Animal Sacrifices** were a sweet-smelling aroma to God/His people
3. **Jesus Sacrifice** was a sweet-smelling aroma to the Father [Eph. 5:2]
4. **We are sweet-smelling** aroma those going to be saved [2 Cor 2]

His sweet-smelling aroma continued with her all night

Even while she slept alone at night, Solomon's love continued to enrich/nourish her life. [Estes]

King takes in the Shulamite as Spikenard/Shulamite breathes in the King as Myrrh
Combination is like Henna Blooms

- **Husband/Wife:** Different aromas brought together/one new better fragrance

The Beloved

15 Behold, **you are fair**, my love! Behold, **you are fair!** You have dove's eyes.

- **Dove's Eyes:** Picture of Jesus seeing the Holy Spirit within us.
 1. **Shulamite:** lit. Perfect and Peaceful
 2. Purity. Truth. Beauty. Breath. Life

The Shulamite

16 Behold, you are handsome, my beloved! Yes, pleasant! Also our bed is green. 17 The **beams of our houses are cedar, And our rafters of fir.**

Our bed is green/new... our home is sturdy...We don't have to worry of it falling down

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage is honorable among all, and **the bed undefiled**; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.