

Song of Solomon 3

Jesus

I. Troubled Night

The Shulamite sings...

1 By night on my bed **I sought the one I love**; I sought him, but I **did not find him.**

**What do we think about/meditate on...when the day is over?
Is Jesus our All in All?**

- **Meditate:** lit. to moan, growl, utter, muse, mutter... deep thought
- **Bride** meditates on her Beloved...as we **meditate on the Lord**

Isaiah 26:9 With my soul I have **desired You in the night**, Yes, by **my spirit within me** I will **seek You early**...

Psalm 77:6 I call to remembrance my song in the night; **I meditate** within my heart, And my spirit **makes diligent search.**

- Leave it with the Lord and go to sleep
- Dream Sequence: While falling asleep/even in a dream **she seeks Him**

2 **"I will rise now,"** I said, "And **go about the city**; In the streets and in the squares I will **seek the one I love.**" I sought him, but I did not find him. 3 The watchmen who go about the city found me; I said, "Have you seen the one I love?"

- **Brides continues to dream:** Seeking without finding
 1. Wanders throughout city streets searching/not finding Him
 2. Watchmen of the city find her but before they can speak...**she questions them**

Tell me...**have you seen Him!**

- **Common Dream:** Trying to get somewhere but prevented...trying to get to pulpit
- Continues looking...

4 Scarcely had I passed by them, When **I found the one I love.** I held him and would **not let him go**, Until I had brought him to the house of my mother, And into the chamber of her who conceived me.

Notice: She did not give up until she found Him.

When she did...she would not let Him go until she found the close **intimacy she desired**

- **The One I love** 4X in Ch. 3

**Do we desire intimacy with Jesus the One we Love?
Like all relationships it requires time/effort/sacrifice...always worth it**

- **Finding Intimacy w/Jesus**

1. **Beautiful time** Reading His Word
2. **Peaceful time** Praying/Meditating on His Word
3. **Joyous time** Fellowshiping w/ His people

**Do we REALLY desire intimacy with Jesus?
I'll do whatever it takes to get close to you Lord?**

- **Jacob really desired intimacy with the Lord...In a bad place**

1. Chickens coming home to roost/Past catching up w/him
2. Brother Esau whom he deceived is coming to meet him/kill him?
3. Jacob needs to know his relationship with God is close for this one

I'll do whatever it takes to get close to you Lord.

God will answer Jacob's prayer...but not the way Jacob had imagined

Genesis 32:22 [Jacob] ... arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. 23 He took them, sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had. 24 Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.

Jacob is wrestling with Jesus...and Jacob started it!
Have you ever wrestled with God? His ways...His timing?

25 Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He **touched the socket of his hip**; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. 26 And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" 27 So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob [heel catcher/schemer]." 28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel [Contend with God/Prince with God]; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." 29 Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. 30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For **I have seen God face to face**, and my life is preserved." 31 Just as he crossed over Peniel **the sun rose on him**, and he limped on his hip.

- Ill wrestle God until He blesses Me? God had to hurt Jacob before He blessed Jacob.

It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He has hurt him deeply. [Tozer]

As we suffer, we notice when we look around and it's just us and Jesus

Suffering is a tool God will use to draw you close to Him

- Jesus meets us in our hardship/suffering/weakness...there He is our strength

Philippians 3:10 [I want to...] know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the **fellowship of His sufferings**, being conformed to His death, 11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

- **Paul prayed 3x** for God to remove a "thorn in the flesh"

God said no. It's good for you

2 Corinthians 12:9 [God said to Paul...] "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that

the **power of Christ may rest upon me.** 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For **when I am weak, then I am strong.**

- **Suffering molds us** into the image of Jesus...

Romans 8:28 ...we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be **conformed** [molded] **to the image of His Son**

- **Conformed:** *soom-mor-fos'* lit. having the same form as another. Metamorphosis

**Suffering is for our Benefit...Suffering Molds us...Suffering Trains us
Leads to Peace and Righteousness** [realignment/recalibration] **...If we allow it**

Hebrews 12:10b... [God allows suffering...] **our profit**, that we may be partakers of His holiness. 11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been **trained** by it.

- **Different types of suffering**

1. **Loss** Family/friends/job/status
2. **Humiliation** Knocked down a peg...can that be good?
3. **Health** Change of circumstance...took for granted?
4. **Loneliness** Abandoned by all except Jesus. Jesus abandoned by all
5. **Honest/true** To our own hurt yet for God's glory

Suffering forces us to forsake all other Hero's/all other Hope but Jesus as we press in....

Yet one glorious day all suffering will be over because it **will no longer be needed to draw us close.** [NJC]

- **This life will be like a bad dream now over...**

Revelation 21:1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the **tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them**, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "**Behold, I make all things new.**"

We are never closer to Jesus than when we trust Him through suffering
The Bride did not give up the search until she found the intimacy she desired

5 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, By the gazelles or by the does of the field, **Do not stir up** nor awaken love Until it pleases.

- It will be worth the wait/suffering to stay pure and **find true/lasting intimacy**

Still clinging to him, she leads him gently but forcefully to her mother's house and into the

maternal bedroom. [Carr]

SUMMARY A Troubled Night

II. Solomon Sends for His Bride Protection and Provision

The Shulamite

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?

- **Bride awakens:**
 1. **Hears** Wedding Procession coming toward her house
 2. **Sees** dust of commotion in distance coming closer
 3. **Smells** fragrance in the wind **and it is good...Realizes its coming for her**

7 Behold, it is **Solomon's couch**, With sixty valiant men around it, Of the valiant of Israel. 8 They all hold swords, Being expert in war. Every man has his sword on his thigh Because of **fear in the night**. 9 Of the wood of Lebanon Solomon the King Made himself a palanquin [Portable enclosed chair]: 10 He made its pillars of silver, Its support of gold, Its seat of purple, Its interior paved with love By the daughters of Jerusalem.

- **Solomon sends Protection:** 60 Groomsmen
 1. Valiant Men
 2. Experts in war
 3. Swords on Thighs
- **God sends His protection to the Bride...to His Church**

Ephesians 4:11 [God] gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ...

Jesus sends His protection for the Bride
Husbands are to be the Protectors of their Wife and Family
Spiritual Leaders: Spiritual Laziness leads to family demise

- **Solomon sends Protection:** Diligent in his duty/role as protector
- **Solomon sends Provision:** OT Stretch Limo sent to Ephraim from Jerusalem

Solomon's Couch/Palanquin; A structure formerly used in East Asia for transporting one person. It consists of a box that is carried by four or six people by means of two long poles.

- Carefully/Lovingly/Especially created for this moment/for His Bride...
 1. **Wood of Lebanon** Whiteness/Purity
 2. **Pillars of Silver** Ransom for sin [30 paid for Jesus]
 3. **Support of Gold/Seat of Purple** Kingship/Royalty

Husbands are to be Diligent Protectors/Dedicated Providers for wife/family
As the Lord gives Strength

- **Bridal Transport:** Its interior **paved with love for the Bride**

It is love undeserved, for what daughter of Jerusalem ever deserved that our glorious King should fall in love with her? It is a love, therefore, which is a theme for eternal wonder. Why did You love me, Redeemer? Why did you make a covenant of grace with me, and line that covenant with [unchangeable] love? [Spurgeon]

Solomon sends for His Bride in Ephraim to bring her to Jerusalem
City of the Great King

11 Go forth, O daughters of Zion, And see King Solomon with the crown
With which **his mother crowned him On the day of his wedding**, The
day of the gladness of his heart.

- **Shulamite Bride to friends:** Go with me to Jerusalem to see my love

Meanwhile back in Jerusalem

- **Solomon is being Crowned by his mother**
- **Who was Solomon's mother? A. Bathsheba?**

Had her son Solomon after losing her first son as consequence for an Adulterous relationship with David whom she married before having Solomon.

Marriages probably were not her thing/bad memory

1. Yet Bathsheba: Crowned her son Solomon on the day of his wedding
 2. Yet Bathsheba: Crowned her son Solomon and he was glad in heart
- Bathsheba was not glad in heart during her wedding to David. Sick in heart
 - Yet Bathsheba chose to lose herself this day for her son/make his day happy

We always want better for our children than ourselves
That they would learn from our mistakes and so with their children

SUMMARY Solomon Sends for His Bride Protection and Provision