

Song of Solomon 6

Jesus

1. Courting
2. Proposal
3. Marriage
4. Honeymoon
5. Life happens...

Bride begins to take her husband for granted. Becomes lazy/complacent/careless
Friends are confused/Question why they should look for the **One she neglected**

Song 5:9 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?**

**Does the world see our love for the Lord?
Do our lives cause others to want to seek Him?**

- **Bride Rebuked...**

1. Immediately repents/Humbles herself
2. Begins to praise Him to her friends...Ch. 5:10-16

My beloved is white and ruddy, Chief among ten thousand... He is altogether lovely.
This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem!

- **Friends respond positively...want to know more about Him**

I. Bride's Praise of the Beloved Reunited through Repentance

The Daughters of Jerusalem

1 Where has your beloved gone, O fairest among women? Where has your beloved turned aside, **That we may seek him with you?**

- **Bride praises Him/Friends seek Him**

1. She stops focusing on herself
2. She begins focusing on Him

Our Testimony of Jesus should focus on Jesus...not self

John 12:32 ... if I am **lifted up from the earth**, will draw all peoples to Myself.

**We are to lift up Jesus and praise Him for what He did for us
He was lifted up on a cross. He died for me...He is my *personal Savior***

- She lifts Him up and the friend become interested

Song 5:16b Yes, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, And this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem!

- **Lift up Jesus to draw all men near...**

Matthew 4:19 ... He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you **fishers of men.**"

The bait used to fish for men is our praise for Jesus. [NJC]

John 12: 21 Then they came to Philip...and asked him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

- **Words we want to hear from others:** We want to meet Him for ourselves

The Shulamite

2 My beloved has gone to his garden, To the beds of spices, To feed his flock in the gardens, And to gather lilies.

- Not the garden of Ch's 4,5. Here a literal garden...
- Two very important Gardens in Bible...
 1. **Garden of Eden** Garden of defeat for the first Adam
 2. **Garden Gethsemane** Garden of victory for the last Adam

- **We need to visit both Gardens for ourselves...**

1. **Eden:** Recognize our sin
2. **Gethsemane:** Final decision was made to pay for our sin

I cannot find Him for you. You must seek Him/find Him yourself

- **Your parents can't find Him for you:** God has no grandchildren
- **Other Christians can't impart Salvation to you...**

John 21:20 [Peter told he would die for Jesus] ... turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following... **21** Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, **what about this man?**" **22** Jesus said to him... **what is that to you? You follow Me."**

We cannot be vicariously born-again through the faith of others
IOW's: You can't accidentally have a Savior and go to Heaven

We must turn to Jesus and ask Him to be our *Personal Savior*

- Personal Relationship w/Jesus is what is required
- I've been a Christian since I was born. **No, you haven't.** It begins with...
 1. **Revelation** Acknowledging our own personal sin revealed by Spirit
 2. **Repentance** Turning from our own personal sin to Jesus
 3. **Restoration** Personal Forgiveness/Sanctification/**Intimacy...**

3 I am my beloved's, And my beloved is mine. He feeds his flock among the lilies.

**Oneness: Either we have it or we don't. If we do, we know it
I am My beloveds/My Beloved is mine**

SUMMARY **Bride's Praise of the Beloved** Lift up Jesus/others will naturally/supernaturally be attracted to Him/Want what we have; personal intimate relationship with Him.

- She praises Him/He reciprocates...

II. Beloved's Praise of the Bride Reunited through Selflessness

The Beloved

4 O my love, you are as beautiful as Tirzah...

- **Beautiful as Tirzah:** Lit. Favorable/to be pleased with/accepted...**GRACE**
- **God's Grace bestowed on us:** Should lead to a correct response...**obedience**

Genesis 6:8 ... Noah **found grace** in the eyes of the Lord... Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. **Noah walked with God.**

Romans 2:4 [Repent] ...do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the **goodness of God leads you to repentance?**

4b... [You are...] **Lovely as Jerusalem, Awesome as an army with banners!**

- **Lovely** ... as **Jerusalem:** Lit. teaching of peace
- **Awesome** ... as an **Army w/Banners:** lit. behold/set up a standard/be seen

Strange combination: Bride ready for War? A. Yes...World War

Matthew 16:18 [Jesus Messiah/Son of God] ... on this rock I will build My church, and the **gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.**

Isaiah 59:19 So shall they fear The name of the Lord from the west, And His glory from the rising of the sun; When the enemy comes in like a flood, The **Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him.**

- **Unflinching Spirit-Filled Bride**
- Dichotomy in our role as a Bride
 1. **Not in hiding:** Not putting our light under a basket. Not in caves/holes
 2. **Ready for war:** Against principalities and powers...

...**Yet** bringing teachings of peace with God to a world controlled by those powers

Matthew 10:16 Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be **wise as serpents and harmless as doves.**

- **Don't be stupid soldiers:** Know this is war. This I Vietnam. Suit up! [Eph 6]
- **Don't be scared soldier...**our commander knows what He's doing [2 Tim 2]
 1. Jesus Christ has overcome the world. We are in Christ. Also, **His Spirit in us...**
 2. He that is in us is greater the devil of this world. **We are on the offensive...**

5 Turn your eyes away from me, For they have overcome me.

Eyes that overcome me: Lit. Overwhelmed me
Why is Jesus overwhelmed as He gazes into His Bride's eyes?

1. Her eyes that show repentance overcome Him
2. Her eyes that mourn over sin overcome Him
3. Her eyes that look to Jesus for salvation overcome Him
4. Her eyes that long for assurance of salvation overcome Him
5. Her eyes that trust Him and look to Him for all provision overcome Him
6. Her eyes of prayer overcome Him. [Spurgeon]

5b... Your hair is like a flock of goats Going down from Gilead. 6 Your teeth are like a flock of sheep Which have come up from the washing; Every one bears twins, And none is barren among them. 7 Like a piece of pomegranate Are your temples behind your veil.

- **Beloved reiterates His praise from Ch. 4...** Honeymoon Chapter

How many times should we say "I Love You?"

I said I loved you the day we were married... If anything, changes I'll let you know.

- Notice the beloved **avoids sexual features of her body** after the argument
- Wants her to know it is **she that he loves** not what she has/what he can get

He did not go off in a dream world, feel sorry for himself, and wish he had married someone else. Such an attitude, in fact, would only have compounded the problem. Quite the opposite, he very creatively and compassionately assured her of his forgiveness. She was still the girl he married, and he was thankful for her. [Glickman]

8 There are **sixty queens** And **eighty concubines**, And virgins without number.

You are above all others...you are the only one I see

- **Father's care for us** on an individual basis

Psalms 103:14 For He knows our frame...

1 John 3:20 ... if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

- **Jesus love for us:** As if we were the only one He died for
- **Spirit work in us** in ways personal only to us

9 My dove, my perfect one, Is the only one, The only one of her mother, The favorite of the one who bore her.

- Beloved Reiterated His praise from Ch. 4 in vv 5-7 ...Honeymoon Chapter. Expected
- Beloved reiterates His praise from Ch. 5..." **Honeymoon is over**" Chapter

Song 5:2 "Open for me, my sister, my love, My dove, my perfect one... [She doesn't]

- **This is big. This is supernatural...**

He has not held a grudge as seen in using the same terms of praise his bride rejected
Knowing this could dredge up bad feeling in his mind...He trusts God anyway

The ability of a couple to succeed in their marriage is equal to the ability of that couple to

forgive and accept forgiveness... When this willingness on the part of both becomes a habit, then the bubble of romance that began their relationship will become a diamond that will last forever." [Glickman]

- Christians do not have the luxury of holding a grudge
- **Have a grudge?** You are NOT walking with the Lord no matter what you think

Matthew 5:23 ... if you bring your gift to the altar [religious thing], and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way [fix it]. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. 25 Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison.

- Agree you messed up/fix it...

Maybe demons are gnawing on you because you are doing your easy religious thing
Without taking care of the difficult godly thing?

Matthew 6:15 ... if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will **your Father forgive your trespasses.**

Matthew 18:34 [Servant refuses to forgive after being forgiven] And his master was angry, and **delivered him to the torturers** until he should pay all that was due to him. 35 "So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses."

**If the enemy is tormenting you due to undealt/unresolved sin...
Don't argue with him...Agree with him and repent before God**

1 John 1:5 [We all blow it] This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and **in Him is no darkness at all.** 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 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. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

He does not hold a grudge: He uses the same words of praise previously rejected by the Bride which could easily have drugged up past resentment in His mind. Instead, He trusts God and says again...My dove, My perfect one, my only one... **even after the fight.** [NJC]

- **To the Bride:** You are my only One?

Author Solomon had many wives. When did he write this speaking of his only one? **3 Views**

Solomon wrote this as a young man on the occasion of his first love, his true love. Of all the 700 wives, one had to be first, and the maiden of the Song of Solomon was this one. If this is true, then the reference to the queens, concubines, and virgins was simply theoretical and does not describe women that actually belonged Solomon.

Solomon wrote this as a middle-aged man with many wives and concubines (though perhaps somewhat early in the count), meaning that he wrote this about an ideal that he

did not live or benefit from. If this is true, then the reference to the queens, concubines, and virgins is literal.

Solomon wrote this as a man late in life, having tasted the good and ideal but wasting the vast majority of his life upon foolish romances and sexual liaisons; he wrote this remembering the ideal and attempting to promote it to others. If this is true, then the reference to the queens, concubines, and virgins is theoretical. [Guzik]

- Beloved continues speaking to his bride...

9b... The daughters saw her And called her **blessed**, The queens and the concubines, And they praised her.

- **Husband of the Bride:** I'm hearing others call you blessed and it makes me happy

Solomon showed us a better way. He did not make Shulamite pay for her insensitivity. He worked on the problem, not on the person. He wanted reconciliation, **not retaliation**. [Estes]

Romans 12:17 Repay no one evil for evil.

1 Peter 3:9 [Do not return] evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

- **Revenge/Retaliation/Payback:** Not in a child of God's vocab...especially in marriage
- **Instead bless...**
 1. Feel like it or not. Don't wait for the feeling
 2. Obey and God will add the feeling

Husband of the Bride: You are the talk of the town...

10 Who is she who looks forth as the morning, Fair as the moon, Clear as the sun, Awesome as an army with banners?

Who is this who looks down like the dawn, As beautiful as the full moon, As pure as the sun, As awesome as an army with banners? [NASB]

He shows His Bride Agape/Unconditional Love of God...

Song 6:10 Who is she who looks forth as the morning, Fair as the moon, Clear as the sun, Awesome as an army with banners?

Love requires the Spirit of God

John 15:5 I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for **without Me you can do nothing**

- **1 Corinthians 13** definition of love. Action. Verb. Not a feeling.

1 Corinthians 13:4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all

things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails.

- **Apart from Jesus we have Zero ability to Love**
 1. We will not be patient/Kind
 2. We will compete/act in pride/act rudely/selfishly
 3. We will be easily provoked/offended [irreconcilable]
 4. We will keep *count of/Rejoice in* ...failures of others
 5. **We will not...**

...Rejoice in truth/Bear all things/Believe all things/Hope all things/Endure all things

Our ability to love comes from being attached to the Vine...Jesus Christ

1 John 4:8 He who does not love does not know God, for **God is love.**

- Those w/out Christ cannot love w/God's love. That's why...
- **God commands us to marry only believers...**

2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?

- An unsaved spouse/friend **cannot** love unconditionally

Romans 8:7 ... the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, **nor indeed can be.**

- God's Love for us is unconditional
- We are **naturally unable** to love in marriage/other relationships
 1. We need *more than the natural*
 2. We need *more than trying harder*

**We need the Spirit of God to Succeed in Love
We need to stay attached to the Vine Jesus Christ**

- Beloved loves Bride w/ God's love...

Song 6:10 Who is she who looks forth as the morning, Fair as the moon, Clear as the sun, Awesome as an army with banners?

SUMMARY Beloved's Praise of the Bride Reunited through Selflessness

III. Dance of the Two Camps

The Shulamite

11 I went down to the garden of nuts To see the verdure of the valley, To see whether the vine had budded And the pomegranates had bloomed.

After experiencing His unconditional love...she is broken and coming home

- **Realizes** nothing can separate her from His love...
 1. Nothing she has done

2. Nothing the world can do
3. Nothing her enemies can do/say...**she is His forever**

Romans 8:38 ... 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.

12 Before I was even aware, **My soul had made me As the chariots of my noble people.**

- When we realize He will never leave us nor forsake us...**we run to Him**

Psalms 18:29 For by You I can run against a troop, By my God I can leap over a wall.

- As we run to God in brokenness...**He runs toward us**

Luke 15:19 [Prodigal son] ... I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.'" 20 "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and **ran and fell on his neck** and kissed him.

The Beloved and His Friends

13 Return, return, O Shulamite; Return, return, that we may look upon you!

- Beloved calls her to Himself... friends rejoice at the reunion

Luke 15:5 [Shepherd leaves 99 sheep to find the one] 5 And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. 6 And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' 7 I say to you that likewise there will **be more joy in heaven over one sinner** who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

- Does God care? He cared enough to send His Son...

The Shulamite

13b... What would you see in the Shulamite—As it were, the **dance of the two camps?**

Psalms 4:3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, 4 **What is man** that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit [give attention/care to] him?

2 Samuel 7:18 [God promise David the Messiah would be from his line] King David went in and sat before the Lord; and he said: "**Who am I**, O Lord God? And what is my house, that You have **brought me this far?**"

What do you see in me? Dance of Two Camps within Me?

- **Two Camps:** heb. Mahanaim

Genesis 32:1 [Jacob before meeting w/brother Esau] ... went on his way, and **the angels of God met him**. 2 When Jacob saw [the Angels], he said, "This is God's camp [host/army]." And he called the name of that place **Mahanaim...**

- Jacob's Camp and Angels Camp

2 Kings 6:17 [Elisha/Servant surrounded by physical enemy] Elisha prayed, and said, "Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was **full** of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

- Enemies Camp **vs** Angels Camp [Army]
- **Mahanaim:** Two Camps

Unbelievers have only one camp within them...flesh/sinful nature

Believers have two camps warring within us: Flesh vs Spirit

- **Physical/Fleshly Camp**
 1. Fear
 2. Faithlessness in a small God
- **Spiritual Camp...**
 1. Courage as we trust in Him
 2. Faith/Victory in a big God...

What will He find when He comes back? What if He came back this week?

Luke 18:8 ... when the Son of Man comes, will He **really find faith on the earth?**"

- God is not pleased with a lack of faith

Hebrews 11:6 ... without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

There is a Great Sifting taking place in churches today
Wheat/Chaff are being separated...and the Wincing Fork is **Fear**

- Trials don't make us who we are they reveal who we are
 1. **Make-Believers:** Increasingly more fearful/faithless
 2. **True Believers:** Increasingly more courageous/stronger in faith

Hebrews 10:39 ... we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul. [True believers are not perfect believers **for sure**]

Severe trouble in a true believer has the effect of loosening the roots of his soul earthward and tightening the anchor-hold of his heart heavenward. [Spurgeon]

- Believers are marked by faith leading to courage to stay the course
- Make-believers will fall away... reveal true colors when trials come [Seed Stony]

Places]

2 Peter 2:20 For if after [a person has...] escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."

2 Thessalonians 2:3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the **falling away comes first**, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition...

- **Falling Away:** From rt. Divorce
- True believers endure/grow in faith: 2 Peter 1
 1. **Add to Faith...**
 2. Virtue
 3. Knowledge
 4. Self-Control
 5. Perseverance
 6. Godliness
 7. Brotherly Kindness
 8. **Love**

2 Peter 1:10 [How do you know where you are at?] ... be even more diligent to **make your call and election sure**, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

- **Saved by faith:** How do we know if it is saving faith?
 1. When we walk in faith, we have *felt assurance*
 2. When we walk in fear, we lack *felt assurance*. Do we trust Him?

Jesus said believe He has overcome the world.

We have the ability to believe or He would not have said it. **So, Believe. Period**

- True believers **do not have** *perfect faith*. E.g., Abraham, father of faith
- True believes **do have** *enduring faith*. *He who endures to the end will be saved*

We are Eternally Secure as we abide in Christ. [Chuck Smith]

Our abiding [enduring] does not save us but is evidence we are saved [NJC]

Hebrews 11 Hall of Faith mentions hero's faith...**not their flaws/failures**

- Beloved asks the bride to come home
- **Bride replies...**

...What would You see in me...the Dance of the Two Camps?

A Dichotomy: Walking Contradiction? [See next chapter]

SUMMARY Dance of the Two Camps