

Song of Solomon 1-3 – 17 August 2023

“Love That Draws Us”

Introduction

- *Read Chap 1:1 – It may be better titled the Song of Songs indicating the supremacy of this song
 - I Kings 4:32 says Solomon wrote 1005 songs in all
 - You can sing of events, relationships or aspirations
 - Of them all, a love song stands above all songs
- *Although Solomon had many wives (wrong) his relationship w/ the Shulammitte woman seems to be one of pure love & genuine morality
- *This is a historical record of the romance of Solomon (my beloved) w/ a Shulammitte woman (my love), yet placed in the Bible for each one of us to use
- *This book stands against the pious man that won't speak of sex & against the lustful man that misuses sex
- *There are 4 layers by which to interpret this book
 - *The glory of wedded love
 - *God's love for His wife Israel

*Christ's love for His bride the church

*Christ's love for the individual – for you

*This book isn't for the unsaved person but for the blood-tipped ear of the one who has a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ -J.V. McGee

*Don't leave this book primarily being the wiser for it, but primarily being deeper in love with Jesus

Today we'll see 4 things God's love draws us into

#1 – Drawn Into Openness (Chap 1:2-15)

Read Chap 1:2-4a (She speaks)

1. Shulammite woman longs for her man of good reputation to show that physical affection of kisses
 - a. Different kisses in Bible, this is of intimacy
2. “Thy love is better than wine” – Have you found Jesus to be the primary thing you need?
3. She longs to be brought away from her place to the king and his place
 - a. So to with us – we long to go to Jesus

4. “We will run after thee” is a chorus from the daughters of Jerusalem – remember...it’s a song

Read Vs 4b

1. Give time to be brought into presence of Jesus where we’re naked, open & vulnerable before Him

Read Vs 5-6

1. She describes herself as a farm-girl sunburned
 - a. “Tents of Kedar” – goat’s hair of black
 - b. “Curtains of Solomon – white
 - c. Paradox: self humility yet beauty given
 - i. As w/ us - self-sin yet blood-washed
2. “Vineyard” shows she cares for others almost to the neglect of self-care (A Cinderella story)

Read Vs 7

1. She longs to be where he is
2. She longs to know all of his business

Read Vs 8 (He speaks)

1. Come seek me and you’ll find me

2. He calls her ‘fair’ – doesn’t mean average
 - a. In vss 5-6 she was self-abasing about her beauty, yet he sees her as wonderfully beautiful
 - b. Balaam looks at Israeli tents: how beautiful
 - i. Yet this was a people of great sin
 - c. Jesus to Sardis in Rev 3:5: I’ll give them white raiment & confess their name to Dad
 - i. We’re of sin, but in Christ it’s different

Read Vs 9-11

1. Gentlemen, don’t use the *content* but the *intent* of these verses – they don’t translate to our culture

Read Vs 12-14 (She speaks)

1. Her desire to make their intimacy as beautiful as possible – there’s a magnetism between them
2. The groom is like the henna blooms on Engedi in an otherwise dry and desolate land
 - a. Come to Jesus: oasis away from the world

Read Vs 15 (He speaks)

1. We know that dove’s eyes are single focused
 - a. Turn to Matt 6:19-22 – Make our eye single

#2 – Drawn Into Prosperity (Chap 1:16-2:7)

Read Vs 16-17 (She speaks)

1. Our bed is beneficial as a pasture
2. Cedar & fir don't rot quickly but are permanent
 - a. Much of Venice underwater is of cedar

Read Chap 2:1

1. This has mistakenly been applied to Jesus
2. Crocus in a very fertile place like Sharon
 - a. She's saying that she's just a common girl

Read Chap 2:2 (He speaks)

1. Groom responds that she's more than just a common flower but is better than those around her

Read Vs 3-6 (She speaks)

1. He's there to provide for her
 - a. Flagons are raisin cakes
 - b. 'Sick of love' better translated lovesick
 - c. The groom isn't just simple but he's fruitful and able to bless and provide for me

2. Vs 6 indicates that they're in a lying down position even in physical union
 - a. Everything about this is pure & clean
 - b. Done w/ a banner of love not lust / greed
 - c. The ultimate expression of love is to give and provide everything that we need

Read Vs 7 (He speaks)

1. Don't try to allure just any man, wait for him
2. Let love develop naturally: keep the creeps away
3. "Sexual freedom" is the life of an animal
 - a. No commitment, love or high value in the other person

#3 – Drawn Into Excitement (Chap 2:8-3:5)

Read Chap 2:8-13 (She speaks)

1. Here's her excitement that her strong man is coming to sweep her off her feet
 - a. Vs 8, he comes unhindered w/ excitement
 - b. Vs 9, the excitement of just catching a glimpse of him thru the lattice
2. When he calls arise & come away, she's ready!

3. Christian life is one of separation
 - a. Not separated away from sin, but TO JESUS
 - b. A man doesn't have to leave his friends when he gains woman of his dreams, just naturally happens

Read Vs 14

1. 'Rock of Ages cleft for me, let me hid myself in Thee'
2. He wants to see her alone w/ dedicated attention

Read Vs 15 (The Chorus)

1. There are little habits/sins that'll peck away at your pure love for Christ – seize them & rid them

Read Vs 16-17 (She speaks)

1. Lips called lilies in chap 5: she's with him all night & then he's free to go in the morning

Read Vs 1-4

1. Seems to be a dream, but could be just waking in the middle of the night
 - a. Either way it's the bride longing to be with him in her loneliest moments

2. Reminds us of Mary M. - she wouldn't leave Jesus when He appeared
3. She brings him into the tent of her mother
 - a. As Isaac brought Rebekah (Gen 24:67)
 - b. Very sensual yet very moral

Read Vs 5 (He speaks)

1. Repeated again as in Chap 2:7
2. Don't play w/ love, it's the holy of holies
 - a. We have vanity of vanities, King of Kings
 - b. This song of songs is the holy of holies

#4 – Drawn Into New Life (Chap 3:6-11)

Read Chap 3:6-10

1. This is seen as the wedding procession
2. Who is “this” – this is in the feminine singular
 - a. It's bride coming in Solomon's entourage
 - b. Being carried on a royal bed or litter

Read Vs 11

1. Solomon is ready to receive her

Conclusion

So are you open to a deeper relationship w/ Jesus?

1. **Let Him draw you into openness**
 - a. Be willing to be vulnerable with Him
2. **Let Him draw you into prosperity**
 - a. He only has your good in His mind
3. **Let Him draw you into excitement**
 - a. You can get excitement w/o disappointment
4. **Let Him draw you into New Life**
 - a. We get to join His family coming away from the sin and dread of this world

Get alone with this book & just let Jesus speak to you