

5/12/24

Review –

We began with the Rev 3:20 question. who was this written to and why.

(note our splash screen Tammy created – I did not give her that verse, it's one she picked – has Prov8:17)

Pr 8:17 I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.

What does it mean to seek Him early?

What about

- **Ps 63:6** When I remember You on my bed, I meditate on You in the night watches
- **Ps 55:17** Evening and morning and at noon, I will complain and murmur, And He will hear my voice.

Ho 5:15 I will go away *and* return to My place Until they acknowledge their guilt and seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me

“seek me early” = shachar – same word as Hos 5:15 “they will seek me earnestly” –

In Hos 5:15 why might they have sought Him earnestly? Because they are in judgment and are being afflicted.

One might then say, “**Pr 8:17** I love them that love me; and those that seek me early (and respond promptly) shall find me.”

Ps 25: 14 The secret of the LORD is for those who fear Him, And He will make them know His covenant.

First of all, what's the 'secret'? Maybe we don't want it 😊

Hebrew: a session, i.e. company of persons (in close deliberation); by implication, intimacy, consultation, a secret:—

It's used in places like

- **Job 19:19** "All my associates (inward friends) abhor me, And those I love have turned against me.
- **Jer 15:17** I did not sit in the circle of merry-makers, speaking of Ahithophel (spiritually, it's Judas), David says
- **Ps 55:14** We who had sweet fellowship together Walked in the house of God in the throng.

fear -

Judges 7: 3 "Now therefore come, proclaim in the hearing of the people, saying, 'Whoever is afraid and trembling, let him return and depart from Mount Gilead.'" So 22,000 people returned, but 10,000 remained.

Guideon's whittling down of his army! They didn't have respect for the Midianites, looking up to them, they were scared of how awesome an army the Midianites had vs them.

This fear of the Lord then is a reverence that *results* in unquestioning trust and obedience

Song 7: 11 "Come, my beloved, let us go out into the country, Let us spend the night in the villages. ¹² "Let us rise early *and* go to the vineyards; Let us see whether the vine has budded *And its* blossoms have opened, *And whether* the pomegranates have bloomed. There I will give you my love.

Come, my beloved, → let us go out...

It's a Scriptural treasure, showing us that the work God has for you FIRST comes out of responding to His call.

During these quiet intimate times He shares His heart so we can see/feel what He sees & what He does.

- That's what Jesus did – He could only do what He saw the Father doing.
- How would He have been able to see what the Father was doing except He “watch”?
- Hab. after pouring out his heart, stood upon his watch to see what God would speak to him.

The Bridegroom often came to her seeking fellowship. She makes mistakes along the way that hindered that fellowship but that's part of growth.

- This is a “looking back” at one of her big mistakes that needed correction

Song 5: 1 "I have come into my garden, my sister, my bride; I have gathered my myrrh along with my balsam. I have eaten my honeycomb and my honey; I have drunk my wine and my milk.

Jesus has sweet fellowship with the bride as she grows. She finds security in Him knowing she has value in His eyes

Song 5: ² "I was asleep but my heart was awake. A voice! My beloved was knocking: 'Open to me, my sister, my darling, My dove, my perfect one! For my head is drenched with dew, My locks with the damp of the night.'

One night He comes yet again to call on her i.e. *He* is seeking *her* out!

She's physically asleep but spiritually she's very much alive.

Yes, God is a seeker of men too

Hanani the seer came to Asa, King of Judah

- rebuking him for trusting in flesh / bribes to gain victory rather than God
- reminded him of a victory He gave him prior over the Cushites & Ethiopians, because (2Ch16:9)

2Ch16:⁹ "For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His