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- Your world is changing
- Power hungry globalists are stirring up world war, civil war, & pandemics for population reduction
- **How can such a few people stir an entire global population, you ask?**

Dr. Shiva takes this answer down to the systematic approach to herding sheep into the pen.

Some points to consider at the outset.

- We will reference scripture like we always do, but won't READ the entire book of S/S here, that's your job.
- Don't read it once, read it often
  - The Holy Spirit speaks God's Word to you, so give him the tools He can use
  - (If you want to hear Him speak, get His word in you)
    - **Proverbs 6: 20** My son, keep your father's commandment, and do not forsake your mother's teaching. **21** Bind them always upon your heart; tie them around your neck. **22** When you walk, they will guide you; when you lie down, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you.
      - When you awake, they will speak to you
      - **What is the difference between mom/pop's teaching and that which you learn from an uncle, a neighbor or a friend?** - Repetition!
- We are considering the Song as an allegory of
  - Christ (the groom, Solomon as a type of Christ) and
  - The Church – which consists of the
    - barely saved (suffer loss but be saved so as through fire)
    - Those who are called least among the saints
    - Those who inherit 10 cities (Luke 19)
    - Those who inherit 5 cities
- As such (allegory), we have somewhat more leeway than a rigid doctrine such as Salvation or Water Baptism
  - IE this is somewhat subjective – like the color of the new church carpet!!
  - There are some who can't handle this type of reading.
    - (some people can't decode sarcasm too)
    - They couldn't handle the spiritual language of Jesus in John 6
    - Example: Romans 10: 9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved;
      - the heart is a muscle that pumps blood –
      - It can't house thoughts, it just doesn't compute in them.
  - As we look at examples of allegories that are already defined in Scripture (law of 1<sup>st</sup> mention) it will become more clear as to why we are not reading Song as "A romance with breasts and copulation"



- **(Perspective slide)** Just some friendly advice – several people have given me things to look at, read, watch etc... Thanks for the help but
  - 1) what you see here today was birthed in prayer months ago, and took written form weeks ago.
    - I intend on offering a perspective.
    - Are there many perspectives? Yes.
    - The guy in the photo,
      - is he standing on a floor mat?
      - Is he sitting on the railing dangling his legs over?
      - Is it just photoshopped?
  - 2) I can't read all the books, articles, and videos a half dozen people want me to.
    - The new car (the Pinto...) is rolling onto the showroom floor – too late to ask for cup holders!
  - 3) In this series is much more instruction than discussion, YET Feel free to offer your perspective *but PLEASE, only as it edifies the body!*

*Ask yourself, does this edify in some way or does it subtract & cause confusion?*

Example:

Wild edibles – This will be important for a period, I believe.

I went on a wild edibles tour.

I remember almost nothing because I'm a slow learner and (my perspective of) it was

“This is elderberry but this is hemlock and it looks just like it but it will kill you, so look at this sunflower over here, they're full of vitamins too!”

It's overwhelming to know all them, so for starters you get a group together and decide to MASTER memorizing, identifying and discussing any / all of 5 particular plants.

- You find one, the group looks at its variations & applies the reference material to learning that plant as well as possible
- Someone identifies another of the 5, same result!
- Someone else finds one NOT on the list & starts to make a big deal out of it but nobody else has the reference material and they start getting anxious/confused
- Another finds 3 more not on the list and pulls the entire group over there to those 3 because they're cool but there's no reference material on them! Confusion abounds because they can't all see it all at once

Are the 1 plus the other 3 wild edibles good for you, do they serve to edify in themselves?

Absolutely

Do they serve the purpose of the exercise, which is to master the 5 for starters, after which you move on?

NO!!!

The Bible is multifaceted.

A presenter decides to offer a class on the virtues of wisdom

Solomon asked for Wisdom and God was pleased he didn't ask for riches or long life, or death of enemies.

- The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom
- We are encouraged to desire her, she speaks to the naïve and makes wise the foolish
- Wisdom comes from God
- TONS of benefits of wisdom, even bible books devoted entirely to its subject

Now, Solomon, in older age, he

- ran after foreign women to excess
- Became materialistic which clouds judgment
- took on earthly projects as top priority (vs John the Baptist or Amos, for example) which became idols, leaving God in 2<sup>nd</sup> place

So might it not have been better to ask God for a pure heart like His?

Moreover, Wisdom doesn't ALL come from God.

James 3: 13Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good conduct, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. 14But if you harbor bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast in it or deny the truth. 15Such wisdom does not come from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every evil practice.

But if the presenter is showing the value of wisdom and you pop off about a pure heart being better and then say, "why didn't you go that way?" then someone else might say, "No, why didn't you show that James says (above)", this leads to the ruin of the hearers

In fact, it's in alignment with

2Ti 2:14 ¶ Remind them of these things, and solemnly charge them in the presence of God not to wrangle about words, which is useless and leads to the ruin of the hearers.

ruin = καταστροφή

This is a very deeply spiritual & emotional subject we're entering.

Wrangling about words on something like this almost never is about arriving at the Truth for closer walk with Jesus but rather about dialectical victory & intellectual superiority.

- It actually subverts the rest who are already trying to absorb/understand
- The rest, rather than being built up in faith end up bewildered & lowered
- Their grip on truth is weakened and their affection for it is diluted
- In other words, forcing a rabbit trail is creating a catastrophe for the minds who are hearing it.

Bible scholar Alfred Plummer (1841-1926)

It is as if some beautiful object, which they were learning to understand and admire, had been scored all over with marks by those who had been disputing as to the meaning and relation of the details

Like watching a action/romance with a group where the two lovers defy death & all the odds and just when they come together & embrace and your tears start to flow someone goes, "Dude she has like peach fuzz on her chin!"

So, am I saying don't offer your opinion or perspective? NO!

I'm saying ask yourself on this one, if what you are going to add edifies the body or pulls you down a rabbit trail.

- How many rabbit trails are there? eleventy billion

- Can we get to them all? NO
- Is it better to
  - walk away proud that you identified every wild edible but not remembering any of them a week later, or
  - KNOWING inside & out the 5 wild edibles?

Jesus spoke in parables often, why?

- heavenly message in an earthly story
- Song is very much one of these
- (Gary – didn't recognize this, always got to this book and just flipped the pages until Ecc)

Nobody has the monopoly on knowledge or perspective. We all learn from someone. I learned this from my friend and spiritual dad, Ron Auch (remember Ron and Dean)

- He gathered this teaching from 2 different older men who also wrote books on the subject.
- All 3 men were largely nobodies,
  - not like the famous ones who leave you feeling good about yourself
  - but their message leaves you feeling better about Jesus

Some background / groundwork for Song

From an out-of-print book, Sheperdess of Shunem, Queen of the Realm by Rev. Delmer Guynes

The Song of Solomon cannot be read like a western love story or novel. Its structure is oriental, somewhat like a Chinese opera or shadow play. The meaning or plot has to be discovered by listening to a wide range of episodes which reveal and illustrate various aspects of the story. These are not necessarily reported in the sequence in which they occurred.

- Not like a linear plot of a western-designed story/movie.
- This is why repetition / reading & rereading it is necessary
- It will build slowly in your mind not like a Norman Rockwell painting but more like a mosaic
  - 3 "Hot Wheels" slides – go thru in series
  -





Literally, this story is about a woman named Abishag, a reflection of their courtship “looking back” at mysterious events surrounding this relationship

It reads like a hodge-podge of experiences. Some present, some flashbacks, dreams, fantasies etc.

- Occurs more like a dream, where taken as a kaleidoscope it makes sense
- Often you don't REALLY know “when” you are, what period of time you're talking about

**Some** think it shouldn't even be canonized for its liberal sexuality. Consider Jesus' own words:

John 6: .<sup>51</sup> "I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh." <sup>52</sup> Then the Jews *began* to argue with one another, saying, "How can this man give us *His* flesh to eat?" <sup>53</sup> So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves. <sup>54</sup> "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. <sup>55</sup> "For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. <sup>56</sup> "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. <sup>57</sup> "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also will live because of Me. <sup>58</sup> "This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever."

Cannibalism?? What the heck?

(continued next week...)