



*Go for God!*

# The Song of Solomon

## Introduction & Chapter 1

### “LOVE IS IN THE AIR!”

- **Date written:** *Approximately 965 BC*

- **Place:** *Israel*

- **Key Word:** *Beloved* (Used 30 times)

- **Key verses:** **Chapter 7:10-** *“I am my beloved’s, and his desire is toward me”;*

**Chapter 8:7-** *“Many waters cannot quench love, nor can the floods drown it. If a man would give for love all the wealth of his house, it would be utterly despised.”*

- **Introduction:** The Song of Solomon is a love song written by written Solomon (1:1) and abounding in metaphors and oriental imagery. Historically, it depicts the wooing and wedding of a shepherdess by King Solomon, and the joys and heartaches of wedded love. Allegorically, it pictures Israel as God’s espoused bride (see Hosea 2:19-20), and the church as the bride of Christ. **As human life finds its highest fulfillment in the love of man and woman, so spiritual life finds its highest fulfillment in the love of God for His people and Christ for His church.** The book is arranged like scenes in a drama with main speakers: the bride (Shulamite), the king (Solomon), and a chorus (daughter of Jerusalem).

#### **Chapter by Chapter:**

**Chapters 1 – 3:5 - *Falling in Love***

**Chapters 3:6 – 5:1 - *United in Love***

**Chapters 5:2 – 7:10 - *Struggling in Love***

**Chapters 7:11 – 8:14 - *Growing in Love*<sup>1</sup>**

According to 1 Kings 4:32-33 Solomon had written 1005 songs, but this Song is called “the song of songs” (1:1), in Hebrew it is the *Shir Hashirim*. This is in the superlative and speaks of Solomon’s most exquisite song or the best song. The Song has traditionally been read at the Feast of the Passover. **This Song or book is never crass, but often intimate, as it explores the dimensions of the relationship between two lovers: attraction, desire companionship, pleasure, union, separation, faithfulness, and praise.**

> **Chapters 1—3 give a series of recollections of the courtship:**

(1) *The bride’s longing for affection at the palace before the wedding (1:2-8)*

(2) *Expressions of mutual love in the banquet hall (1:9—2:7)*

(3) *A springtime visit of the king to the bride’s home in the country (2:8-17)*

(4) *The Shulamite’s dream of separation from her beloved (3:1-5)*

(5) *The ornate wedding procession from the bride’s home to Jerusalem (3:6-11)*

Solomon praises his bride from head to foot with a superb chain of similes and metaphors (4:1—5:1). Her virginity is compared to “a garden enclosed” (4:12), and the garden is entered when the marriage is consummated (4:16—5:1). The union is commended, possibly by God, in 5:1.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Chapter 1 - “A Lovely Arrival”**

> **LOVE BLOSSOMS!** (v1-4)

(v1) You’re about to read Solomon’s supreme song of love (“*the song of songs*”).

<sup>1</sup> Talk Thru the Bible- Bruce Wilkinson & Kenneth Boa, pg. 176

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, pg. 179

(v2a) The Shulamite desires the greeting of kisses from her husband to be. The name *Solomon speaks of "peaceable"*, the name *Shulamite means "peaceful"*, the kiss in this culture represented a kiss of "peace"; every marriage is to filled with "peace". Jesus is our "Prince of Peace", He also say "Blessed (happy) ar the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God" (Matthew 5:9). When looking for that special someone to marry, ask yourself are they a t peace, are they a peacemaker? You want to marry a child of God, a born again, Bible believing Christian. (2 Corinthians 6:11-7:1)

(v2b-3) The king's maidens, who will take care of her, greet her. In their greeting they complement her.  
- "your love is better than wine" - Her love is very tasteful, it brings **JOY!**

- "her fragrance" - She is perfumed with sweet aroma and thus her name has been spoken of with the same fragrance. What's in a name? **Proverbs 22:1 – A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver of gold.**

- "the virgins love her" - for the inner beauty of her **heart** (1 Peter 3:1-6); she has friends, meaning she is friendly. You can know a lot about a person in regards the friends they keep or don't keep.

(v4a) "Draw me away!"- The Shulamite's simple life becomes overwhelmed with the attention and she becomes shyly afraid.

(v4b) "we will run after you"- The maidens will not permit her human frailty to overcome her destiny.

(v4c) Solomon's summer palace is available for her, she is ecstatic!

(v4d) "we will be glad & rejoice, & will remember you"- The maidens are giddy girls with their newfound friend and thrilled with excitement to be with the bride of the king.

### > "LOVE QUESTIONS!" (v5-11)

(v5-6) The Shulamite unveils her physical appearance and how she became so dark. The girls must have been staring at the darkness of her skin and she self-consciously describes herself. She is **humbly** beautiful. (*Tents of Kedar* - made with the skins of black goats.)

(v7) The Shulamite desires to be with the one she loves, she would like to slip away and be with him, to look upon him, whether he is eating or sleeping. She doesn't want to be **separated** and hidden from him. **If you are not 100% head over heels about the person you are to marry then don't get married!**

(v8-10) Solomon responds by **calling her beautiful** and assures her that she must patiently follow the timetable for the wedding ceremony. He **compliments** her once again and she has been **showered with earrings and a necklace**. (Guys if you want your wife to go crazy over you, **compliment her and give her jewelry**.)

(v11) The maidens let her know that they will make her beautiful jewelry. **Inward beauty attracts all kinds of BLESSINGS!**

### > "LOVE TALKS!" (v12-17)

- In the following verses pay close attention to the LOVE TALK – Practice this for PLEASURE!

(v12-14) The Shulamite responds with her aroma of attraction and shares her embracing love for her beloved. **For both men and women eliminate negative, condescending talk. Think before you speak, speak the things of love, encouragement, edification, peace, joy, be positive, romance, kindness and godliness.**

(v15) Solomon responds "How **beautiful you are, my darling! Oh, how beautiful!**"

(v16—2:1) The Shulamite responds "How **handsome you are my beloved!**" She then reflects the beauty and relaxation of nature in comparison to their relationship. The bride to be is comfortable, safe and secure in his love. Every wife needs this assurance throughout the marriage relationship. She declares herself to be like a rose or lily for him, beautiful, fragrant and for his adornment.

> SUMMARY: BE FILLED WITH **PEACE, LOVE, JOY, AND HOPE FOR A HAPPY MARRIAGE AND HOME!**