

Song of Solomon Chapter 1

A Spiritual Application of the Book

I. Introduction

A. Song of Solomon is the story of the Shepherd/King and a young lady in love with Him

1. Some confuse this story to be about King Solomon, a Shepherd, and a young lady who loves the shepherd but is being wooed by King Solomon.

2. This book is an allegory of Christ and the believer/church. Christ is the Shepherd King. He is both our Shepherd and King. We are the young lady in the story.

B. Song of Solomon

1. Solomon wrote 1005 songs. [**1 Kings 4:32**] This is the best one. It is the only one that has survived antiquity and is included in scripture.

II. Song 1:1

A. **The Song of Songs**

1. This the highest and best of all songs

2. The highest form of song adores Christ and leads us to worship and draw from our union with Him

B. **of Solomon**

1. He wrote 1005 songs [**1 Kings 4:32**]

III. Song 1:2- young woman to the Shepherd King

A. **Let Him kiss me**

1. This was the promise of betrothal

2. Kissing back then was only done at the point of betrothal or engagement

3. Many singles would be wise to follow this practice

4. We must **let** the Lord kiss us. A kiss speaks of acceptance and love. We must receive His acceptance and approval based upon His unconditional love and not based upon our merits. Those who refuse the kisses of the Lord are bound to the flesh and the Law in which they feel they must first deserve or earn them. The only condition to enjoying the kisses of the Lord is to accept them by faith. Instead of receiving kisses from the Lord many believe they are getting disses from the Lord. Oh, how we need a revelation of the love of God through Jesus Christ our Shepherd King.

B. with the kisses of His mouth

1. Our Shepherd King has kisses for us. **These come from His mouth.**
2. **Each scripture** that speaks to us of what He has done for us and to us in Christ **is a kiss from His mouth.** All scripture is God breathed from His mouth- **1 Tim. 3:16**
3. If we will meditate in the New Covenant scriptures and receive the love of His grace we will experience the precious presence and love [kisses] of our Shepherd King.
4. The kisses of His mouth lead us to union [marriage] with Him. This is drawing our very identity and life from Him and from this union we bear fruit unto God.

C. your love is better than wine

1. wine in scripture speaks of pleasure and comfort
 - a. **Ecc. 2:3-** wine satisfies the flesh
 - b. **Ecc. 9:7-** drink wine with a merry heart
 - c. **Ecc. 10:19-** wine makes merry
2. The love of our Shepherd King is **better** than wine. His love is better than any natural thing we can turn to for comfort, pleasure, or solace. God's love actually will set us free. If we turn to things to comfort, please, or solace ourselves we will be brought into bondage in short order. People go to food, alcohol, sex, pleasure, entertainment, etc. in order to find comfort, pleasure, and solace. However, these soon turn into bondages that end up destroying us instead of helping us. In times of pain, stress, and loneliness come into the presence of the Lord and receive of His love instead of turning to things to comfort you.
3. Only the love of Jesus will fill us totally and cause us to be strengthened spirit, soul, and body. **Eph. 3:19**

III. Son. 1:3- young woman to the Shepherd King

A. Because of the fragrance of your good ointments [Lit. oils]

1. This is spoken about the Shepherd King.
2. Jesus is the Anointed One. Jesus was given frankincense and myrrh after he was born. These were bitter but once they were put into the fire they gave off a most sweet and fragrant aroma. Jesus entered the bitterness and fire of the judgment of God in our behalf. As the fire of God hit the Lord Jesus for us, a sweet aroma of His perfections ascended to God on our behalf. This aroma satisfied God. This aroma brings the perfections of Christ in our behalf before the

Father. In the Old Testament when a whole burnt offering was sacrificed a sweet and soothing aroma ascended to God. This pictured the perfect life of Christ offered up in our stead- Jesus offered up perfect righteousness in our stead so that we could be accounted righteous and then made righteous by the new birth

a. **Gen. 8:21**

b. **Ephesians 5:2**

B. your name is poured forth

1. Because Christ's fragrant offering of Himself has been accepted by God His name as been poured out upon us.

2. In a biblical name there are three things found

a. **one's character**

b. **one's standing**

c. **one's merits**

3. the name of Jesus has been poured out upon us- we have His character, His standing, and His merits before the Father. We received this at the new birth. As we grow in our knowledge of the Lord then we learn to draw upon His character, standing, and merits with God. A name spoke of the totality of a person themselves. Christ has been poured out upon us through His Spirit. The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Christ. We have entered into vital union with Him and must learn to draw from Him. Abiding and drawing from Christ Himself produces the authentic Christian life.

a. **Acts 2:33**

C. therefore the virgins love you

1. The virgins are believers or the church

2. When we receive acceptance, love, and Christ Himself we are empowered to love in return.

a. **1 John 4:19**- We love because He **first** loved us

b. religion teaches that we must first love God and then He will love us back.

c. In the New Covenant God only puts a demand on what He first places within us. He shed His love abroad in our hearts [**Romans 5:5**] and then asks for us to love Him.

d. God under the Law demanded the people to love Him, but they were devoid of it. God did this so that they would turn to His grace and receive His love freely which would empower them to a God honoring life based upon love

3. No matter what your past has been or what you have done, God sees you as **pure as a virgin** in Christ. Once we renew our mind to

being made righteous, holy, and pure our actions will manifest this. Many are trying to clean up their actions so they can become holy and pure. God makes us clean and pure by grace through the blood and finished work of Christ. He does this in the new birth. As we renew our minds and believe the truth of God then the Spirit works a transformation in our lives into the image of Christ.

a. **2 Cor. 11:2**

IV. Son 1:4- Young woman to the Shepherd King

A. Draw me, we will run after you

1. The change of terms "me" to "we" speaks of the individual believer but also the corporate body of believers
2. The Christian life starts with the grace of God. God is the initiator in salvation and in the Christian life. He has moved first. Faith does not move the hand of God. The hand of God has moved in redemption and faith simply responds. We were created to respond to God. This is our responsibility. **Responsibility** for us is to **respond to His ability** [grace].
3. Those who are **led** by the Spirit, these are the sons of God [**Rom. 8:14**] and in whom the flesh is overcome [**Gal. 5:16**]. The Lord draws us and we follow.
4. **John 12:32**- When Jesus is lifted up we are drawn to Him. As we meditate and speak over our lives the finished work of Christ He is lifted up and His Spirit works in us to draw us into deeper fellowship with Him.
5. **Phil. 2:13**- It is God who is working in us to both desire and to do for His good pleasure.

B. brought me to His chambers

1. Our Shepherd King is drawing us to His chambers. This speaks of his intimate communion. Elisha knew what was spoken in the bed chambers of his enemies. [**2 Kings 6:12**] Chambers speaks of private communion. We as believers are being drawn into fellowship with our risen King. What a privilege of entering His chambers to have private communion with Him each morning and evening. This is the place the Divine secrets are revealed to us.

C. we will rejoice and be glad

1. again a change from "me" to "we"- the believer and body of believers.
2. the root of true joy comes from intimate communion with the Lord in prayer and listening to His Word to us.

D. **We will remember your love more than wine**

1. Again the love of our Shepherd King is **better** and **more powerful** to us than wine.

2. **Alcoholics do not forget their wine.** It is never far from their mind. Sad to say many Christians forget to spend time with the Lord. This is because they do not have a revelation of grace and the love of God towards them. Coming before the Lord is a religious duty to them. It is a most unpleasant experience for those who are labor under the law and guilt. Once we have tasted the goodness of God and the joy of His acceptance through the finished work of Christ we will become addicted to His presence and the love we find at the throne of Grace! We can be so addicted to the love of Jesus that He never leaves our mind.

E. **the upright love you**

1. When we get our mind renewed to the fact that we have been made righteous through the blood and finished work of Christ on our behalf we will fall in love with our Shepherd King.

2. receiving righteousness has two aspects- **imputed righteousness**- this is right standing with God. However, most Christians do not understand the next aspect- **imparted righteousness**- we are **MADE** righteous through the new birth. The word righteous actually means to be as you ought to be. Through the cross the old man we used to be that was wrong was crucified [Romans 6:6] and we were born again into a new man who is just as He ought to be. Our new man is in Christ the righteous. [2 Cor. 5:21] Christ is as He ought to be, and as He is, so are we in this present world – [1 John 4:17]

3. By renewing our mind to our new identity in Christ and drawing from the life of Christ within we can bear the fruit of righteousness. [Romans 6:22]

4. Love for God has been injected into our born again Spirit. It is a grace gift that we are to foster and fan to a flame.

V. **Son 1:5- Young woman**

A. **I am black**

1. Her skin was blackened because of the sun

2. This speaks of our flesh

3. The color black in the bible speaks of death and evil- Our flesh produces only death. Evil has been injected into our flesh through the fall. Sin entering into our body produced the flesh- our tendency to try

to meet our own needs by our five senses instead of through trusting in God by faith.

4. Unfortunately, most Christians just focus on their flesh. They see everything wrong with them and are busy trying to change what is wrong in them. This is not how true godliness is experienced or victory found.

B. but comely

1. We can look at the ugliness of our flesh, or we can look elsewhere and see beauty! Our inner man has been made new and beautiful by the work of Christ and the Spirit of God. We are new creations that have been created in true righteousness and holiness- **Eph. 4:24**

2. many are trying to change their outward actions so that they will be different inwardly. This does not work! God has a better plan. It is called the process of transformation! This is based upon the principle of metamorphosis. We see this in a worm becoming a butterfly. It takes on the outward form that was locked up in its DNA all the time. We are to be transformed by the renewing of our mind of what the finished work of Christ has done for us and to us. **[Romans 12:2]** Once we know and are convinced of being righteous we will speak in line with it and act in line with it. Our outward actions will change without will power. It will be a product of the Spirit of God! **[2 Cor. 3:18]**

C. tents of Kedar- These were black tents made of rough goat hair. These were very unattractive. Too many Christians only see this about themselves. This represents our flesh. Our body is seen as a tent. **[2 Cor. 5:1]** Kedar is in Arabia outside of Israel and is rejected of God. Kedar was an offspring of Ishmael. Ishmael represents the flesh. This speaks of those who live under legalism- Arabia is connected with the Law.

D. curtains of Solomon- These were made of the finest materials and were beautiful to behold and these belonged to the King Himself- This speaks of our new identity and who we are now in Christ. We belong to Him! **Our flesh is represented by a tent. A tent is propped up. Legalism is based upon righteousness that is propped up by your works. However, our new identity in Christ is represented by a curtain. Curtains are hung and supported. Our new identity hangs and is supported by the unchanging grace and love of God and the finished work of Christ on the cross.** Notice our new identity is not connected to our tent- our old body and deeds.

VI. Son. 1:6- young woman to the women of Jerusalem

A. Don't look upon me because I am dark

1. We are not to look at each other any longer naturally
 - a. **2 Cor. 5:16**- Do not regard any according to the natural any longer
2. **WE** are not to look at **OURSELVES** any longer according to the natural or according to the flesh
3. **2 Cor. 5:17**- We are new creatures in Christ Jesus- the old has passed away [died] and all as been made new [by the new birth]

B. the sun has tanned me [black]

1. This speaks of God's judgment upon our flesh

C. My mother's sons were angry with me

1. "my mother's sons" means her half brothers. They had the same mother but different fathers.
2. A Christian has the same mother as unbelievers- **EVE**. We all came out of the womb of Eve and share the same flesh with them. A Christian's flesh is no different than an unbelievers flesh. This is why we are to walk in the Spirit, so we will not fulfill the flesh. [**Gal. 5:16**] However, once we receive Christ we no longer have Adam as our father! Praise God! **We have a new Father which is God Himself**. Unbelievers have Adam and to a greater extent Satan as their father. [**John 8:44**]
3. The world hates us because we are born of God and not of the world [**John 15:19**]

D. they made me the keeper of the vineyards- [*their vineyards*]

1. The world wants to squeeze us into their mold of thinking and acting. This is called being conformed to the world. We are to reject this. [**Romans 12:2**]

E. But my own vineyard have I not kept

1. We are to be transformed by the renewing of our mind. This is tending the spiritual vineyard that has been planted in us. By this the loveliness of our savior will come out for all to see to the glory of God.
2. We tend our own vineyard each time we meditate on the scriptures that reveal the finished work of Christ and the grace of God. We tend our vineyard when we share sweet intimate fellowship with our Shepherd King in prayer.
3. As ministers we need to watch that we are not serving everyone else and not tending our own vineyard which is our relationship with Christ.

VII. Son. 1:7- Young woman to the Shepherd King

A. Tell me, whom I love, where are you feeding your flock

1. We not only are the love of our Shepherd but we also are a sheep that must be fed by Him.
2. The greatest growth as a Christian will take place when we learn to come to Christ Himself and let Him feed us.
3. We must be led to where He is feeding each day
4. The Lord feeds from His Word. However, we must be led to where He is feeding out of His Word each day. The Holy Spirit will guide us into the truth [Word]- **[John 16:13]**

B. where you make it rest at noon

1. This speaks of the hottest part of the day.
2. When life heats up God wants us to find rest. It will be found in the same place in which we are fed. He makes us lay down in green pastures and leads us by the still waters [of cool refreshing and His voice]. **[Psalm 23:2]**

C. for why should I be veiled by the flocks of your companions

1. The word for “companions” in Hebrew means **associates**. These were under-shepherds
2. The young lady in our story was not content in receiving from her Shepherd’s associates. She desired and was hungry to receive from Him directly
3. Pastors and ministers are associates of Christ that help him feed the flock. We all should have a pastor that we receive from
4. However, there is a minority of the sheep that have a deeper hunger that can only be fulfilled by the Chief Shepherd Himself. The majority of Christians are content with getting fed only by Christ's associates- pastors and ministers. They get fed through their messages, books, tapes, T.V. and radio broadcasts. This is all good and well, but those who will press beyond that to find where Christ is feeding Himself and learn to be fed directly from Him in their own personal study and prayer time each day will find the richest food and the greatest growth.
5. Christ picks his associates from this group of people. They then help Christ feed the young flock from what they have been taught from the Lord.
6. Being veiled speaks of legalism. Moses wore a veil over His face. **[Ex. 34:33; 2 Cor. 3:13]** Paul says that once we discover the grace of God through Jesus finished work the veil is removed from us and we can behold Jesus directly. **[2 Cor. 3:16]** God was hidden behind the

veil in the Old Testament. The Law produces a distance between God and a person. The people of Israel asked for Moses to be the intermediary and for God not speak directly to them. [Ex. 20:19] This is true of young believers that still live in the flesh and are under the principle of law. They want to receive from God through others rather than directly from Him. They are uncomfortable in God's presence. If you view God only as a Judge instead of also a Father you will stand at a distance. The law promises closeness to God, but only produces distance. Grace draws you into the very bosom of your Heavenly Father to receive His love and acceptance through the perfection of Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!

7. We need to find where Christ is feeding in His Word each day. Ask the Holy Spirit where Jesus is feeding and wait quietly for a leading on where in the Bible to turn to and read. If you do not get a specific leading just open up where it seems good and start reading. When something seems to stand out to you in your reading, stop there and feed! That is where Jesus is feeding that day! This is the place you will find rest and strength to endure victoriously the heat of the day.

8. Do not stop receiving from ministers or sitting under a pastor but know that you can receive directly from your Shepherd King any time you want. He is always feeding. Find Him and eat!

VIII. Son 1:8- The woman of Jerusalem to the young woman

A. If you do not know, O fairest of women

1. This is how our Shepherd King views us. We are exceeding fair in His love and by His redemption. We must start seeing ourselves as He sees us.

B. go the way of the footsteps of the flock

1. Follow the way of the worn path of the flock

2. there is no other place to find where our Shepherd King is feeding than the worn path that countless sheep has found through the centuries. It is the path of the scriptures and prayer.

3. We are to follow the path of all the hero's of faith that have gone on before us. They all received strength through God's Word and grace. There is no **NEW** path to follow although many are being proposed today.

4. The world and Christians even today are seeking wisdom from psychology, philosophy, Hollywood, the occult, and the list goes on and on. There still is only one place that God is feeding- It is from His Word.

C. **feed your little goats**

1. your little goats are actually **young lambs**. The last verse spoke of the mature believer [sheep] finding where the Shepherd is feeding and partaking from Him directly. This verse is speaking to the body of Christ as a whole and to the immature believers in it. They are to find shepherds [the companions of Christ] and feed at their tents- local churches. We never should forsake the local church and being fed by our pastor no matter how mature we get, however, maturity comes from learning to feed from Christ Himself during the week.

2. Every pastor should be encouraging the young ones to go to Christ Himself and receive from Him. Many pastors however are fostering or demanding dependence upon them and not Christ. This is not pleasing to the Lord.

3. Pastors should be teaching the believers about the New Covenant of grace and the new identity in Jesus Christ. This teaching will feed the young lambs and lead them to Christ Himself to be taught of Him

D. **beside the shepherds' tents**

1. pastors and local churches

IX. **Son. 1:9- the Shepherd King to the young woman**

A. **I have compared you my love to my filly among Pharaoh chariots**

1. This speaks of a beautiful white mare.

2. **Only stallions** pulled the chariots of Pharaoh and of Egypt- These were bound to the chariots.

3. The believer is freed and should never to be bound to the chariots of Egypt again once they are saved- Egypt in the Bible stands for the world. When we were unsaved were born in the world and therefore bound to it. However, through the cross we have been freed and are not bound to or are to serve the world any longer. We are redeemed out of the world. We have been bought by our Shepherd King and are His prized possession now.

4. **As a mare** is unfit to be bound to a chariot, so we are unfit to be bound to serve the world

X. **Son. 1:10- The Shepherd King to the young woman**

A. **Your cheeks are lovely with ornaments**

1. our cheeks speak of our spiritual countenance. Our countenance is made lovely because Christ's cheeks were injured when His beard was plucked out [**Is. 50:6**] and His countenance was marred beyond any human. [**Is. 52:14**]

2. Our countenance will be adorned with cheer and peace when we understand His view of us and accept it as truth. **Proverbs 15:13**

B. your neck with chains of gold

1. our neck represents the direction of our focus. Where we turn our neck is the place our eyes will behold
2. gold represents God
3. believers neck should always be turned up to look to God- not down towards the earth, not towards oneself, or to circumstances of life to the right or left

XI. Son. 1:11- young woman and women of Jerusalem [church]

A. We will make you ornaments of gold in studs of silver

1. In return for His adorning us with gold and jewels- [**His nature and gifts**] we return adoration and adorn Him with praise and good works that proceed from faith.
2. At the judgment seat of Christ our works will be judged. If we added gold, silver, and precious stones to our foundation which is Christ and our salvation then we will be rewarded. This gold, silver, and precious stones are our works that were done in the power of His Spirit and from our redemption. Silver is a type of redemption in the Bible.
3. All this gold, silver, and precious stones will be given to our Shepherd King for His adornment on our wedding day. We will all cast our golden crowns at His feet.
4. Christ has adorned us with gold, silver, and precious stones. Instead of worshipping these, we are to turn them into good works that will be to the glory of Christ.
5. Israel came out of Egypt wearing jewels, but they were given to the work and service of God and a house of worship [the tabernacle] was constructed from them. This is what we are called to as Christians

XII. Son. 1:12- Young woman to the Shepherd King

A. This verse was exactly fulfilled by the Lord Jesus. As he sat at sup a woman came and poured pure spikenard upon His head and anointed His feet. [**Mark 14:3**]

B. Spikenard speaks of worship. To anoint Jesus she broke the flask that contained it. True worship will come from our brokenness and a revelation of His grace. As we sit with Christ at the table of communion let our spikenard rise as fragrance

C. This fragrant spikenard also represented the perfections of the life of the Son of God that ascended to God in our behalf.

D. Jesus was anointed with this shortly before He went to the cross. The odor from this spikenard would have still lingered on Jesus at the cross.

E. As we feast upon Christ we worship Him for giving up His perfect life for us in death.

XIII. Son. 1:13- young woman to the Shepherd King

A. **bundle of myrrh**- Myrrh came from a tree in Arabia. When pierced this tree brought forth sap in the shape of tears. These tears were very bitter. These tears then hardened and were ground up and used in oils for perfume

1. Myrrh represents sorrow and suffering in the Bible. Jesus endured suffering and sorrow at the cross for us. He was pierced and His tears flowed from His eyes as He cried, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me? It was for us.

2. The sweet aroma of myrrh speaks again of the perfections of the Lord Jesus Christ sent to God on our behalf

3. Myrrh from Arabia, as did the Law. Myrrh represents the perfection of Jesus in fulfilling the Law completely and perfectly for us. We have now been discharged from the Law and we now live from Christ which has united Himself with us.

B. lies all night between my breasts

1. The church age is seen as the night. The coming of Christ is seen as the day.

2. Until Christ returns we are to always keep the finished work of the cross [**the myrrh**] always upon our hearts and minds.

3. The modern church has lost its moorings. The early church focused upon the person of Christ and His work upon the cross and the power of His resurrection. The church today by in large has lost focus of Christ and the cross. It preaches a mere external gospel-wealth and abundance- that is largely disconnected from the cross and grace and has been turn into principles to be worked to get all our desires fulfilled. An internal gospel will produce the external gospel- healing and prosperity

4. If we would often meditate on what Jesus did for us at the cross and what His finished work has done for us and to us, then our love for Christ would burn hot within our bosom.

XIV. Son. 1:14- Young woman to the Shepherd King

A. clusters of henna

1. A cluster of flowers is from one plant, but it has many buds
2. Jesus is one but has manifold graces- these are the clusters which adorn us as Christians
3. henna- This was found in the deserts of Palestine. This plant had beautiful white clusters which stood out from its barren surroundings. Jesus was the only pure and holy One in the midst of a cursed land when he was here on Earth. Jesus was not just another good man but the only unique Son of God!

B. vineyards of En-gedi

1. En-gedi was a region known for its vineyards and palm trees that were surrounded by desert. The vine represents Jesus and palm trees represent believers- palm trees are unique in that they are not sustained from their bark but from their inner core. We do not live from the flesh but from Christ on the inside.

XV. Son. 1:15- the Shepherd King to the young woman

A. you are fair my love, you are fair

1. This is repeated twice. We need to get this! Our Lord is wanting us to see ourselves as He sees us. Only this will bring outward transformation in us.
2. We are not fair in ourselves but in Christ. Being in Christ is our new identity.

B. you have dove's eyes

1. only believers of all those upon the earth can see Christ as He really is. We do this through **dove's eyes**. The dove in the NT is a type of the Holy Spirit. When the Spirit anoints our eyes we can see the glory of our risen Shepherd King.

XVI. Son. 1:16- The young woman to the Shepherd King

A. Behold you are fair, yea pleasant

1. Through dove's eyes we see the loveliness of our Savior. The Song of Solomon teaches us that we must first behold our Shepherd King and see Him how He really is. Then we must see ourselves as He sees us.
2. We are made in His image. As He is so are we in this present world. [**1 John 4:17**]. As we behold Him in the mirror of God's Word we will be transformed into the same image by the Spirit of God. [**2 Cor. 3:18**]

B. Our bed is green

1. This means our communion place is the green pasture. This is where we meet and receive from our Shepherd King.
2. [Ps. 23:2]- he makes me lay down in green pastures and there He feeds me.
3. Each day we are to feed from God's Word and commune with our King there. We need to go green!

XVI. Son. 1:17

A. The beams of our house are cedar and our rafters are fir

1. This speaks of the trees that overshadowed the meadow as the young woman and the Shepherd King communed.
2. Cedar and fir trees were used in the construction of the temple. Cedar represents Christ life and fir represents His death on the cross
3. We are sheep of His pasture [Ps. 79:13]