

Song of Solomon Chapter 2

I. Son. 2:1- The young woman to the Shepherd King

A. I am the rose of Sharon

1. Lit. Hebrew- “a rose of Sharon”- the land of Sharon was well known for vast numbers of roses it contained. She is saying I am nothing special. I am just one of many just like me. I just blend in with all the rest.

2. When we look around at other believers we often feel like just one in a crowd- nothing special. However, each believer is unique and precious to the Lord. We each have unique beauty and importance to Him

B. the lily of the valley

1. Lit Hebrew- “a lily of the valley”- Again she saw herself as just one of many lilies that are found in the valley plains. The valley speaks of a low lying place. She had a low view of herself! One of the biggest problems Christians have today is that they have a low opinion of who they are because they are looking at the natural, instead into the mirror of God's revelation of who we have become through our Shepherd King. When we have a low opinion of ourselves we really have a low opinion of the cross of Jesus Christ and of God Who says we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus. **Ephesians 2:10**

II. Son. 2:2- Shepherd King to the young woman

A. Like a lily among thorns

1. A believer is seen as a beautiful flower in the midst of thorns [unbelievers]

2. No matter how beautiful in the natural people might be, if they are not believers, the Lord sees them as thorns. Thorns speak of what is cursed.

3. This phrase also has application to our inward versus our outward man. Our new man in Christ is seen as the lily and our flesh is seen as the thorn. If we live from the union with the Lord in our inward man we will smell fragrant, look seemly, and be attractive to those around us. However, if we live according to the flesh we be as thorns and will hurt others. Being around thorns is painful!

4. Most people operate in their flesh. This is what makes dealing with people so difficult! When people are in the flesh they are thorns. Dealing with people in the flesh is like dancing with porcupines! It can hurt! Those in the flesh hurt others and are hurt by others easily.

5. If we will walk in the Spirit we will not be easily hurt or offended and we will not cause pain to others or offend them unnecessarily.

B. so is my love among the daughters

1. "daughters" here is in reference to the daughters of men as in **Gen. 6:1-2**. These are natural women [unbelievers].

III. Son. 2:3- Young woman to the Shepherd King

A. As the apple tree among the trees of the wood

1. The apple tree represents Christ. He is the source of all the fruit in our lives. This speaks of the grace of God in which we partake of the fruit of the Spirit.

2. Christ is compared to all other humans that are non fruit bearers. They are merely trees of the wood. Christ is the only true fruit bearing- life giving tree.

3. **Son. 8:5**- says that we were awakened **under the apple tree**. This means we were awakened in Christ and by His grace.

B. I sat down in His shade with great delight

1. Coming to Christ is a coming to rest in grace. **Matthew 11:28-30**

2. Abiding with Christ and in His grace will provide comfort from the heat of this world, Satan, and our flesh

3. Grace is the root and occasion for the Christian's joy and delight

4. Those who struggle in the flesh under law find themselves sitting bound in the darkness. **Is. 42:7** We can be freed to sit and refresh ourself under the apple tree of Christ and His partake of the fruits of His grace.

C. His fruit is sweet to my taste

1. Tasting the goodness and grace of the Lord will cause true spiritual growth- **1 Peter 2:2-3**

2. Living in union with Christ and abiding in the vine makes the spiritual life exceedingly sweet!

IV. Son. 2:4- Young woman

A. He brought me to His banqueting house

1. Lit. Hebrew- "the house of wine"

2. The church is the house of wine. The church is God's house- **1 Tim. 3:15**

3. The church should be a place where we partake of spiritual wine from the vine of Christ. Unfortunately too many of our churches are more of a house of bondage due to legalism than a house of wine. Instead of teaching the New Covenant union between the believer

and Christ in which we are to bear the fruit of holiness, we are taught a list of good things to do and bad things to avoid in order to be more like God. There is nothing new or supernatural about this system. Every religion of the world has this system! Instead of partaking of the tree of life too many Christians are being taught to partake of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in order to be more godly- or God like.

B. and His banner of me is love

1. banner- a standard bearing a flag.
 - a. These were used to draw a group together- love is what unites believers- **Col 3:14**
 - b. These were put up once victory was obtained- victory over Satan, sin, and the world was accomplished by the love of Christ at the cross. **Col 1:13**
 - c. God's banner of love is over us. We are His spoils of war. We are under the protection of His love.
 - d. We are won over by the love and goodness of God- **Romans 2:4**
 - e. Once you know, believe, and receive the love of God you will be filled to the all the fullness of God and will see what has been conquering you conquered! **1 John 4:16; Eph. 3:19**

V. Son. 2:5- young woman to Shepherd King

A. Sustain me with cakes of raisins

1. cakes of raisins speak of grace- **2 Sam. 6:19**- After David established the tabernacle of David [a type of the gospel of grace- it was open for all to come, even gentiles] and placed the ark of the covenant there, all the people received a cake of raisins. This speaks of grace that comes from bringing and establishing of the ark of the covenant [Jesus and His finished work] before the King [the Father].
2. We are built up and strengthened by grace. - **Acts 20:32**
We partake of the cake of raisins- a by product of the Vine.

B. Refresh me with apples

1. **refresh**- lit. Hebrew- *to spread out a bed*- the grace of God causes us to rest and be refreshed.
2. Apples are the produce of the Spirit of Christ in us. The fruit of the Spirit are not products of our effort, but gifts of grace from the Lord Jesus Himself. Fruit comes from the sharing of His own self with us, the believer, who is in vital union with us. We are refreshed by the

love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control that the Lord shares with us through faith.

C. For I am sick of love

1. **sick**- lit. *faint and weak*

2. lit. "*for love*"- Humans are faint from love hunger. The love of God is the only thing that will satisfy a soul. Nothing else can satisfy a soul- not food, money, sex, power, or any other addiction. When we come and receive grace from the Lord we experience the love of God that will fill our hearts and free us from all that binds us

VI. Son. 2:6

A. Let his left hand be under my head

1. In the Bible the right hand is the place of honor or grace. When passing on favor or blessing you placed your right hand on someone. The left hand was the place of subjection. Jacob placed his left hand on Manasseh thus subjecting him to Ephraim who he placed his right hand upon. **Gen. 48:14**

2. The Lord places His left hand under our head. The head in the bible speaks of authority. By the left hand being placed under our head we are thus submitted to the Lord's authority. We give up rights to rule ourself. He is our Lord. We must submit ourselves to the Lord. Submission in the New Covenant is faith. When we place our faith in the Lord and His finished work of the cross then we are supported God's left hand-by the authority of Jesus. We will reign in life through Jesus Christ! **Romans 5:17**

B. If we refuse the left hand of the Lord we will never experience His right hand embracing us- His honor, glory, and deliverance.

C. When we try to operate under law and works we reject the left hand of the Lord. We refuse to submit to His righteousness which is a gift. Israel was guilty of this. **Romans 10:3**

D. His right hand embraces me- if we will accept His left hand under our head, he will embrace us completely with His right hand. The right hand is the hand of honor, acceptance, authority, and power. The right hand of the Lord is the hand He worked redemption for us. It is by His right hand we experience victory **Ps. 98:1** We will see our whole life embraced by God's power and glory when we submit our head under His left hand!

VII. Son. 2:7- The Shepherd King to the daughters of Jerusalem- the church

A. I adjure you, o daughters of Jerusalem

1. These represent the church as a whole
2. The word "adjure" is a strong word which is like giving a solemn charge
3. This is the Shepherd King's charge to the church and to its leaders.

B. by the gazelles and young deer of the field

1. These are by nature very skiddish and run way quickly.
2. If you want to catch these you must be very patient and draw them

C. do not stir up or awaken love until it pleases

1. This is the strong charge given to the church. They are not to force people to love the Lord. The preaching of the law is the forcing of love. This will only push people away from the Lord. They are like gazelles and young deer.
2. The Lord wants to draw us by His grace, love, and goodness. This will stir and arouse love in us for the Him in return. This process can not be forced. Love must be freely given to be God's kind of love.
3. Unfortunately many ministers coerce people to love and serve God out of guilt and condemnation and obligation. The Lord hates this! He strongly charges us not to do this!
4. This same charge is given later in this book **Son. 8:4**- It is important to note that the preceding verse there is the same verse as we have here. It mentions the left hand being under the believers head, and His right arm embracing them. We must allow people to grasp the revelation of grace and righteousness so that they truly submit to Him by faith so that His right hand can fully embrace them. We are not to force people to submit to God.

D. In a natural application: Do not push your dating friends to get married or move faster in their relationships. Let them go at their own pace! You can't hurry or force love. This only brings damage.

VIII. Son. 2:8- Young woman concerning the Shepherd King

A. The voice of my beloved

1. Before we will see our Shepherd King we get to hear His voice
2. The church age is the age of **the voice of our Shepherd**. We can't see Him yet but we can hear His voice. His sheep know His voice- **John 10:4** Only His sheep can hear the voice of the Shepherd King

during this dispensation of grace. Unbelievers can only hear the church's voice preaching the gospel to them.

3. Adam and Eve heard the voice of the Lord in the garden after they sinned before they saw Him. They ran from His voice. We who have been redeemed and taught grace correctly will come to His voice and follow Him.

B. Behold, He comes leaping upon the mountains and skipping upon the hills

1. This speaks of His 2nd Advent where he comes to deliver Israel and bring righteousness into the Earth.

2. This is the time the whole Earth will behold the Shepherd King in person.

3. This time will be great destruction and death to unbelievers but this verse shows that the Lord will be filled with joy in delivering His people and bringing peace and lasting righteousness to the Earth. He is seen as leaping and skipping upon the mountains and hills.

4. For the unbelieving nations this leaping upon the mountains and skipping on the hills will be a dreadful thing. In that day the mountains will tremble and the hills will move back and forward. **Jeremiah 4:24**

5. This however, we be a great day of joy for God's people.

IX. Son. 2:9- Young woman to the Shepherd King

A. My beloved is as a gazelle or a young stag

1. These are elusive and sometimes hard to find

2. Often times the Lord seems silent and seems to have gone away somewhere like a fleeing gazelle or a young stag. However, I use the word **seems** because He is never far away. He is as close as our heart and mouth. **Romans 10:8**

3. If we want to hear His voice we only have to open the pages of the Holy Scriptures and trust in the Holy Spirit to speak to us and He will.

B. Behold He is standing behind our wall

1. The Shepherd King is hidden from our sight as long as we live in the flesh. We can hear His voice from behind the wall however.

2. Jesus Christ is in the Spirit realm right now, just over our natural wall of our flesh and body. We live in a natural world. However, we can behold our Shepherd King by faith through His Word.

3. He is behind **our** wall- Our wall is our flesh. This is what is separating us from seeing Him. When we die, our wall is removed and we will see Him face to face.

C. He is looking through the windows

1. We can't see Him but He is looking at us. It might seem that the Lord is far away right now and does not seem to care or know what is going on with you. This is just not the truth. He is always beholding you through the windows of the Spirit.

2. He is all seeing.

3. He is beholding you through the windows, however, you can behold him in turn by looking through the glass of the Word of God. Paul said he saw the Lord dimly through a glass. This is the revelation of the Word of God. **1 Cor. 13:12**

4. One day we will see Him clearly as He is. **1 John 3:2**

D. gazing through the lattice

1. The Lord is seen as looking at us through a lattice.

2. Christ beholds us from the lattice of His house- **Prov. 7:6**

3. Christ is walking among the churches and looking in through the lattice. **Rev. 1:13**

4. We can behold Christ through the lattice of the Word of God. We can catch glimpses of Him through the Word of God.

X. Son. 2:10- Shepherd King to the young woman/church

A. My beloved spoke to me, and said to me

1. Soon our Shepherd King will speak to the church. His voice will reverberate as a shout to us.

B. Rise up, my love, my fair one, come away

1. This will be the rapture of the church

2. John witnessed this event in the Spirit- **Rev. 4:1- Come up here!**

3. At the rapture we will rise to meet the Lord and go away with Him to the place He has prepared for us. **1 Thess. 4:16-17; John 14:2-3**

4. Again, spiritual advancement comes with a proper view of ourselves according to God's view of us in Christ. He calls us **His fair one**.

XI. Son. 2:11- The Shepherd King to the young woman/church

A. For lo, the winter is passed

1. In the Old Testament and in the Jewish mind there are but two seasons- winter and summer. Fall is joined to winter and spring is connected to summer.

a. **Gen. 8:22**

b. **Ps. 74:17**

c. **Is. 18:6**

d. **Zech. 14:8**

2. Winter is the time of the church age. This time period is the revelation of the Son of God to the gentiles. This was the rainy season. Summer is the time of Israel as a nation and the revelation of the Messiah to His people the Jews.

B. the rain is over and gone- There was a former and latter rain during the winter season. The former and latter rains refer to the outpouring of the Spirit during the church age.

a. **Joel 2:23**

b. **Acts 3:19-** These rains are called the times of refreshing.

c. When the winter is over and the rains have ceased then the church will rise and go away with the bridegroom into His chamber- heaven- for seven years. The heat of summer will begin for Israel during the Tribulation and Christ will return to Earth to rule over Israel.

XII. Son. 2:12

A. The flowers appear on the Earth

1. In the Jewish mind the springing up of flowers are the start of summer. This would be our spring.

B. The time of the singing of the birds has come

1. Again this is the beginning of the Jewish summer. Again this would be our spring. This is the time where birds start their singing. They return from their migration back into their land. This is happening now to the Jews. They have been dispersed from their land during the winter, but now they are coming back to their land as birds from their migration.

C. the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land

1. The dove is a type of the Holy Spirit. The voice of the Holy Spirit is starting to be heard in the land of Israel.

2. The Jews are hearing the Spirit call them back to the land and they are hearing the voice of the dove calling them to prepare to rebuild the temple and get ready for the coming of the Messiah.

3. This voice of the dove during the Tribulation will speak clearly to many Jews through the preaching of 144,000 sealed Jews to accept Jesus as their Messiah. These 144,000 themselves are ones who clearly will hear the voice of the turtledove and accept Jesus Christ.

XII. Son. 2:13

A. The fig tree puts forth its green figs

1. In the beginning of the Jewish summer- our spring- the fig tree starts to bring forth figs. They appear green at first.

2. This represents the nation of Israel coming back into the land again and blossoming as a nation. This began in 1947 and has continued to happen. We are very near the rapture of the church and the official close of winter.

a. **Matthew 24:32**- When you see the fig tree put forth leaves and fruit then you know that summer is at hand. Again this is our spring. Christ will return after winter [church age] and at the beginning of the summer [the resuming of Jewish time].

b. The nation of Israel coming back into their land and returning as a nation is a sign that the church age [winter] is rapidly closing.

2. The fig tree represents religious Israel- those who have not accepted the Messiah but still cling to the Law and works- **Matthew 21:19**

B. and the vines with their tender grapes give a good smell

1. This speaks of Jews that are receiving Christ and are becoming believers. There are many Jews today turning to Christ

2. During the Tribulation many Jews will turn and believe upon Christ. They are seen as vines. The vine is Christ and branches in the vine are believers. Vines give a good smell. This smell is the acceptance of Christ's finished work and His perfections on our behalf. When we place our trust in Christ and His righteousness then we give forth a good smell to God that He accepts.

C. rise up, my beloved, my fair one, and come away

1. Again the church is called Christ's beloved. We are His fair one through His perfect redemption.

2. Once winter ends, the winter rains cease, and Israel is in the proper place, the church will be raptured. This is prior to the Tribulation period.

XIV. Son. 2:14- Shepherd King to the young woman

A. Oh my dove, in the cleft of the rocks

1. A few verses earlier we saw the voice of the turtledove. This is the Holy Spirit. Here we see the Shepherd King call the believer a dove. This is because we have been given new life through the dove, the Holy Spirit. We are one spirit with the Lord. **1 Cor. 6:17** The Holy Spirit indwells the believer.

2. A dove is gentle and beautiful. They are white. This stands for the purity and righteous nature of the believer in Christ. This is given to us by the dove within us.

3. The believer is seen as one who is in the cleft of the rock. The rock represents Jesus Christ.

a. **Ex. 33:22**- Moses was hid in the cleft of the rock when the glory of God passed by. If Moses was not protected in the cleft of the rock then the glory and holiness of God would have killed him.

4. Jesus on the cross had His side cleft for us by the spear and blood came forth. This was the place of His ribs. From this cleft came the blood that redeemed the church who would be His bride. As Eve came from the open wound in Adam's side, so the church came forth from the wound in Jesus' side.

5. We are protected from God's wrath and judgment by being in Christ- the cleft of the rock.

6. If we will keep our faith and focus upon the finished work of Jesus Christ we will be protected from Satan, the world, and the flesh. If we will abide in the rock then we will be as doves- those in whom the Spirit has control and victory.

B. in the secret places of the stairs

1. stairs here are the stone terraces that rise in succession on the mountain side. They are seen as stairs. The Hebrew word for stairs here means steps.

2. Jesus Christ is the rock but He is also seen as the ladder set up from heaven to earth. Jacob saw this ladder. **Gen. 28:12**

3. The angels descended and ascended upon the ladder. This is a picture of the angels responded the commands of God concerning us and bringing answers to prayer. All answered prayer is based upon them being offered "in Jesus name" This means they are offered on the basis of His person, His standing with the Father, and His merits before the Father. All the blessings of God come to us in and because of Christ. It is not our works that bring the blessings of God. It is trusting in Christ's finished work before God that brings the blessings.

4. We are to hide in the secret place of the ladder of Christ. If we stand upon our own performance we will come out of the protection and hiding place of Christ and we will be soundly defeated by the enemy. If we leave grace to stand on law's ground we will find victory lost.

C. **Let me see your face**

1. In ancient bible times a woman's face was to be veiled except to her bride groom or husband.
2. In the NT we see that the veil covering ones face represents legalism or being under the Law. The Law brings a separation from God. We are to look upon Christ with an unveiled face. Why? It is because when we behold our Lord with unveiled face we can see Him as He really is- a God of grace and love. As we behold Him we are transformed into the same image by the Spirit of God. **2 Cor. 3:18**
3. We can only see Christ with unveiled face when we are abiding in the cleft of the rock and in the secret place of His stairs. When we behold Christ through grace and His finished work we can see that we have been made into His image through the new birth- **Eph. 4:24**
4. If our Christian life is governed by our performance than we will hide our face from God. Only when we accept the gift of righteousness will we come boldly to His throne. **Heb. 4:16**
5. When we understand and see ourselves as God sees us in Christ we can let people see us for who we really are. We can put down the masks that so many wear. Other's opinions are no longer the determining factor on how I see myself. I trust in God's evaluation of me through Jesus Christ.

D. **let me hear you voice, for you voice is lovely**

1. Now that we are in Christ, God delights in our prayers and hearing from us. It delights His heart to hear our voice! **Prov. 15:8; Ps. 66:19**

E. **And your face is lovely**

1. If only we would accept by faith God's evaluation of us in Christ and begin to believe it, speak it over ourselves, and act on it then our lives would be transformed! Dare to say what God says about you- I am lovely in Christ! Let that sink into your subconscious and renew your mind.

XV. **Son. 2:15- The young woman to the Shepherd King**

A. **Catch the foxes for us**

1. This verse has been misapplied many times by teaching that the foxes are sins that we need to root out of our lives. Notice that this is spoken **to the Shepherd King** and was a request for Him to catch the foxes **for us**. This is not a command from the Lord to us, but a request from us to Him.
2. foxes are **people** that are secretly against us and the Lord. These include legalistic people that try to destroy the vine principle in a

believer's life. You destroy the vine principle by teaching a set of right and wrong rules that must be adhered to in order to be accepted by God or become godly. This is the principle of law. We are to live from the nature of Christ on the inside of us trusting in Him to manifest His nature in and through us by faith. This is the vine principle. The Law principle exalts man, the Vine principle exalts God.

3. Jesus called Herod a fox. Herod was trying to get Jesus' attention off of following God's plan. Jesus said go tell that fox, that I am going to keep right on healing and casting out devils and He set His face like flint to go to Jerusalem and complete redemption for us. **Luke 13:32**

4. We have no control over false teachers [big foxes] or false brethren [little foxes]. We must put them in God's hand and let Him catch them for us.

B. the little foxes that spoil the vine

1. the word **spoil** here in Hebrew means to **bind or twist**. It also means to **pervert**. Big foxes are false teachers, and little foxes are legalistic or false brethren. Paul came across them. **2 Cor. 11:26, Gal. 2:4**

2. foxes and legalism will cut off the life of the vine to us. Teaching people certain things they have to do and things they have to avoid in order to be righteous perverts the gospel of God and cuts off the flow of grace. Righteousness is a gift from God through faith in Jesus Christ. Once we are born again then Christ through His Spirit will produce godly living in us as we trust Him. As we got saved we are to walk in Him. **Col 2:6** My actions as a Christian are a by product of the gift of righteousness put within me at the new birth, not the means to righteousness- or being as I ought to be.

3. We need to be careful we do not become a little fox in someone's vineyard. Once we try to put our own personal convictions upon someone else and judge them for what they do or don't do we hurt their vine life. If we teach people that if they will do the right things [our own list of right things] and avoid the wrong things [our own list of wrong things] that they will be accepted by God and become more like God then we have become a fox to them which is perverting and cutting off their vine.

4. We as spiritual leaders should preach the Word of God, but it should be from the stand point that we do things in our Christian life because it is in our new nature in Christ to do them and not that by doing them we will become more like God. If we will preach the

Word, the Spirit of God will convict people of actions that are not in line with their new nature in Christ and will show to them what belongs to the old man and the old identity in Adam. Once people become convinced of righteousness and their new identity in Christ then the Spirit will work a holy transformation in them that came from faith in Christ and not from the effort of will power or outward coercion.

C. for our vines have tender grapes

1. It only takes a little leaven to do alot of damage. **Gal. 5:9**
2. If we will teach the New Covenant correctly the Spirit will bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in the believer. It will be the work of God and not man

XVI. Son. 2:16- The young woman about the Shepherd King

A. My beloved is mine and I am His

1. This is the beginning stage or immature stage of one's relationship with Christ. We see Christ as being ours and He exists for us. We are still quite self-focused and everything is about us. In this stage we are focused on our self. This stage basically is, "God is here for me!"
2. As we advance this focus should change from us to the Lord. We are here for the Lord and His glory and purpose. In **Son. 6:3**, we see this change take place. "**I am my beloved's, and He is mine**". Here the Lord is the focus and not ourselves.
3. Until this transition takes place we will not forsake the Law for the Vine. The Law puts the focus on our self and what we do. Grace puts the focus upon God and what He has done.
4. The Spirit flows in our life as we focus upon Christ and His glory instead of us and what we do.

B. He feeds among the lilies

1. The place where Christ feeds us is His Word. He feeds however among the lilies. The lilies are the revelations of His finished work and redemption. Each scripture that unfolds the loveliness of Christ is a lily. We are to feed among the lilies. Feeding upon the Law is feeding among the thorns unless you see all things in the Law are a mere shadow of Christ and His finished work. If we see this we can even feed among the lilies in Genesis to Malachi!

XVII. Son. 2:17- The young woman to the Shepherd King

A. Until the day breaks and the shadows fade

1. The church is seen as ruling in the darkness of this world. Jesus is compared to the sun and to the day. **Romans 13:12**

2. This verse is a prayer of the return of the Shepherd King who is has departed but has promised to return. The bride of Christ should call upon Christ to come and return- **Rev. 22:17**

B. turn, my beloved

1. return my beloved! We desire and look for the return of the Lord Jesus!

C. Be like a gazelle or young stag

1. These ran swiftly and quickly

D. upon the mountains of Bether

1. **Bether** means *seperation*. Christ will quickly cross the mountains of separation to come back for us. **Rev. 22:20**

2. Even so, come quickly Lord Jesus!