

Song of Solomon- Chapter 3

I. Son. 3:1

A. By night I sought the one I loved upon my bed

1. The night is representative of the church age. **Romans 13:12**
2. Some just casually seek the Lord upon the bed of ease. There is no real earnest in their hunger and desire for communion with their Shepherd King.
3. The modern church of Laodicea is one of luke-warmness. Many are content with lying on their bed and watching a religious program about the Lord [if they can even find one about the Lord! Most of them are about things like money and success] instead of rising to their knees with open Bible and to seek out the Lord Himself.

B. I sought Him, but did not find Him

1. Many Christians are hearing about the Lord on T.V., radio, and in audio CD's and DVD's, but unfortunately they are not finding the Lord. They are simply gathering facts.
2. Satan is subtly exchanging the power of the church. Knowledge about God is taking place of knowing God. This is one of the signs of the end times. Our access to knowledge about God is greater than any other period of church history but holiness and power is on the decline.
 - a. **1 Tim. 4:3-4-** they shall heap to them teachers but their hearts will turn away
 - b. **2 Tim. 3:5-** they will have a form of godliness- they will have the form of God which is the **knowledge** of God but they will not have the power which comes from **knowing** and interacting personally with God.
3. It is easy to sit back and get second hand revelation from others. You can take or leave what you hear. However, if you are in God's presence, what He speaks to you requires faith and action. Transformation takes place in His presence.
 - a. **Acts 4:13-** They took note that they had been with Jesus. Personal interaction with Christ changes you. Gaining just mere knowledge about the Lord does not necessary do this.
4. We both need knowledge of God and to know God. One leads to the other. **Philippians 3:8- knowledge of Christ,10- know Christ.** The knowledge of God is the form of godliness, but knowing God is the power of the Christian life.

II. Son. 3:2

A. I will rise now

1. There comes a time when our hunger and need for the presence of the Lord Himself is stronger than our complacency. There is a time that we must say, I will arise **now**.

a. The prodigal son came to this point- **Luke 15:18**- I will rise...

B. and go about the city

1. the city is a place of the masses of people

2. Christians usually follow the crowds and the latest moves of God to find Christ.

3. They seek after the latest and greatest popular speakers to find Christ

4. These things are not bad in themselves but if that is as far as one goes in their relationship with the Lord they will be left with just form without true godliness and power. Genuine life is experienced from an intimate encounter with Christ Himself in prayer and personal mediation on the Word of God and not just from second hand revelation of God through other people- no matter how anointed they are.

C. in the streets and in the squares I will seek the one I love

1. the streets and squares are the places of popular opinion- which may be or may not be the truth. We need to come to Christ our self and interact with the Truth Himself. **John 14:6**

D. I sought Him, but I did not find Him

1. We will not find Christ following the crowd and looking to people to reveal Him to us. We will not find Him in popular opinion. We must not rest until we touch Him personally!

III. Son. 3:3

A. The watchmen who go about the city found me

1. The watchmen are the leaders in the church.

2. God has divinely placed spiritual leaders about the church to guide Christians to Christ so that they can receive from Him. Unfortunately, all that many do is give them facts about the Lord and His Word.

They do not show them how to find Him themselves. Instead of leading young ones to the Lord, they make people dependent upon them.

B. Have you seen the one I love?

1. Apparently they had not, because she leaves them and continues the search herself.

2. It is sad that many watchmen or leaders in the church have not seen the Lord lately themselves! They are not looking for Him either. Notice that the watchmen found her. Instead of searching for Christ themselves they are out looking for people that will come follow them and help them build their ministry. This is a grievous thing.

IV. Son. 3:4

A. Scarcely when I had passed them by

1. There comes a time when you need to pass on past just hearing from people about the Lord. As soon as she went on beyond these watchmen in her personal search for her Shepherd King- she found Him!

2. Do not misunderstand. We need to be in a church with a pastor and be submitted to spiritual leadership. However, they are there to lead you to a personal relationship with Christ yourself. They should be teaching you how to pray and trust Christ yourself. They should be teaching you how to study the bible for yourself and the importance of mediation of the Word. They should be teaching you how to worship as a lifestyle.

3. Christianity is not a religion based upon rules and facts about God. **It is a personal relationship with a living person- Jesus Christ.** It is a growing trend for Christians to **only** get spiritual input from ministers and through different forms of media instead of from the Lord Himself - in His Word and prayer. This is the reason for the weakness and pitifulness of many Christians lives. It is the reason for powerlessness over sin and moral decay that is prevalent in our churches. It is the reason for the luke-warmness among the saints of God.

4. God is telling us to repent and rise up and seek Him! He is not far from any of us.

V. Son. 3:5- The Shepherd King to daughters of Jerusalem/church

A. I charge you O daughters of Jerusalem

1. This admonition was given earlier. Again the Shepherd King gives a stern warning to the daughters of Jerusalem which represent the church.

B. by the gazelles and does of the field

1. These must be wooed with caution, patience, and gentleness.

C. do not stir up or arouse love before it pleases

1. We are not to pressure or berate believers into seeking the Lord. This must come from within them. No one can force anyone to seek and pursue the Lord. The Lord will not even do this to us! This practice is common place in too many churches. The Lord gives a stern warning against this. He hates it!

VI. Son. 3:6- narrator

A. Who is this coming out from the wilderness?

1. This question is asked twice in the Song of Solomon. **See 8:5**
2. The answer here to this question is the **Shepherd King- Jesus Christ**
3. The answer in chapter 8:5 is **the believer**.
4. Jesus came up and out of the wilderness successfully and we come out in and through Him!
5. Adam was cast out into the wilderness because he succumbed to Satan in Paradise and he broke the command of God.
6. Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to gain victory over Satan by keeping the commands of God. He came out of the wilderness full of the power of the Spirit. **Luke 4:1-14**. Jesus came into to this wilderness [Earth] so that in and through Him we would come up out of the wilderness and have access once again to Paradise!

B. Like pillars of smoke

1. The pillar of smoke represented the Holy Spirit in the OT. Jesus was led into the wilderness by the Spirit to defeat Satan's temptations to sin and to keep the commandments of God in our behalf. Jesus successfully withstood Satan's temptations of the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life- the very temptations Adam and Eve failed.

C. Perfumed with myrrh and frankincense- These were bitter substances that when put under fire gave off an aromatic and a wonderful scent. Both of these were extracted from piercing a tree and tears would come out and harden. These would be ground to powder and burnt. On the cross Jesus was pierced and through His tears and suffering He was crushed for us. His perfections arose to God has a sweet smell- a satisfying smell.

1. These two perfumes represent the perfect life and death of Jesus Christ. Christ was tempted in the fiery wilderness for us. His absolute perfections were seen by the enemy and God. He came out of it smelling like a rose. Also upon the cross Jesus gave Himself as a

whole burnt offering unto the Lord. On the cross the fire of God's judgment fell on Jesus. His perfections arose to the Father as incense. It was a soothing aroma unto the Lord. **Eph. 5:2** Jesus did everything for us and as us, so that his perfections are seen as ours because he died as our representative.

D. with all the merchant's fragrant powders

1. All the facets of Christ's perfections given up on the cross for us are represented by this phrase- "**ALL** the merchant's fragrant powders". All the fragrant powders of the Earth can't begin to display all of perfections of Christ's life. All these have ascended to God in our behalf.

2. In the OT there were 5 major sacrifices- **burnt, grain, peace, sin, trespass offering**- The first three represent Jesus' perfect life. The last two represent Him becoming sin and bearing our sins. **Notice it took more sacrifices** to picture His perfect life than it took to picture Him as our sin bearer. This means Christ's perfections and holiness is greater than our sin! Hallelujah! **Christ is greater than our sin!**

E. Many people are in a wilderness of sin, bondage, and lack. They are endeavoring to defeat the enemy on the wrong basis. Most of us have been taught that we must quote the Word of God against the enemy to successfully win against him. Well, that is how Jesus did it right? It is interesting to note that Jesus quoted from the Law of Moses in all three recorded temptations from the enemy. Why did He do this? It is because Jesus came to earth to fulfill and keep God's commands for us because we had broken them! He was fulfilling the Law by His observance of them. In quoting and obeying the Law, Jesus was defeating Satan! Many Christians fail to experience victory against the enemy and against sin because they try to do what Jesus did. **When temptation comes they quote and try to stand on the Law.** This is sure grounds for our defeat. Instead of quoting and standing on the Law we must **quote and stand on grace.** When we confess and stand on the fact that we are in Christ and through Him he has fulfilled the Law for us and through Him we have been set free from sin, bondage, and lack then we will see the enemy flee. We will come out of the wilderness when we see who we are in Christ and stand in faith in this revelation. Jesus has come out of the wilderness in victory. We have also **in Him!** When we believe this, speak this, and act upon this we will come up out of the wilderness in the power of the Spirit! We overcome through our union with Christ our Shepherd King!

VII. Son. 3:7- narrator

A. Behold, it is Solomon's couch

1. Behold means **look!** This is the answer to the question in the previous verse. This is the One coming out of the wilderness. It was the Shepherd King- Solomon, which is a **type of Christ!**
2. He came out of the wilderness reclining! This was the secret of the victory of Jesus Christ over the enemy. Jesus did not keep from sin and overcome the enemy in His own effort. He did it by resting and reclining on the grace of His Father! This is also how we overcome but resting and reclining upon the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - a. Jesus did everything He did by resting and drawing upon His Father- **John 5:30, John 8:28, John 14:10**
3. We will come out of our wilderness when we rely on being in Christ the One who **has** gained us the victory over sin, Satan, and the world.

B. with sixty valiant men around it

1. Sixty is **ten times six-** **Ten** in the Bible speaks of trial and testing. **Six** stands for man.
2. Jesus was fully tested and tried as a man and was found to be totally perfect. He satisfied God's holy demands which He had for mankind. When we accept the gift of righteousness we will find victory. If we try to establish it by our works we will stand defeated and condemned.
3. Jesus was victorious over every test and trial of Satan and by men by resting upon the grace of His Father.

C. of the valiant of Israel

1. Valiant means **strong warrior**. Jesus was the strong warrior that won the victory for us at the cross and resurrection!

VIII. Son. 3:8- narrator

A. They all hold swords- [referring to the sixty men]

1. Jesus overcomes all by the sword of His mouth- **Rev. 2:16, Rev. 19:15, Rev. 19:21**
2. We overcome when we wield the sword of the Word of His Grace

B. Every man has his sword on his thigh

1. Solomon's soldiers were always on guard ready for a revolt.
2. Even though Jesus has won us the victory, Satan still tries to attack us and take our victory from us. We must stand vigilant against Him ready to use the Word of His Grace against him.

C. because of the fear in the night

1. We are living in the night and in the darkness of this world. We have no need to fear in the night as Solomon's guards did, but we do need to stand vigilant and be careful.

IX. Son. 3:9- narrator

A. of the wood of Lebanon Solomon made himself a chariot

1. A chariot was what warriors rode to war in.
2. Jesus was a warrior. Jesus made Himself a chariot of wood. This speaks of the cross. Jesus was not murdered. He willingly laid down His life upon the cross for us. He was the author and maker of this chariot that would carry Him to victory on the greatest battlefield of all time! He conquered resting upon His wooden cross.

X. Son. 3:10- narrator

A. He made the pillars thereof with silver

1. pillars means support beams. The pillars of Christ's chariot were made of silver. Silver in the Bible represents redemption. Jesus' sacrifice for us as the perfect lamb was the basis for our redemption and ultimately the basis for victory over Satan Himself

B. The bottom was made of gold

1. Gold represents what is Divine in the Bible. The plan of redemption and the victory gained at the cross was of God's design. The foundation of our victory and freedom is the Divine plan of redemption. We will not experience victory any other way. It is by the finished work of Christ- the God/man- in which we must stand to see victory. If we stand on our own performance, imperfect obedience, or merits we will only find defeat. These are man's plans for freedom and victory but they are completely insufficient.

C. the covering of it is purple

1. Purple is the color for royalty in the Bible. Through the cross Jesus was raised and declared the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. We are in Him and now reign in life through Him. He is our Lord. He is our covering and protection from the enemy.

D. the midst of it being paved with love

1. What paved the way to the cross of Christ was His great love for us! God so loved the world that He gave His only Son for us. **John 3:16**
2. Because of Christ's love for us He gave Himself up on the cross. **Romans 5:9** Victory over sin, Satan, and the world was paved with the love of our redeemer for us. Praise His name forever more!

E. for the daughters of Jerusalem

1. Jesus loved and died for the church.

XI. Son. 3:11- narrator

A. Go forth, daughters of Zion, and behold King Solomon with the crown

1. The daughters of Zion are the same as the daughters of Jerusalem- this represents the church.
2. King Solomon represents Christ- He is both our Shepherd and King
3. He wears a crown because He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
4. We must behold His crown. When Christ is exalted as King and Lord in our life by our faith in Him, then His reign over us is complete and we experience the freedom of His kingdom rule.

B. wherewith his mother crowned him on the day of His espousals

1. Solomon's mother actually crowned him because David was in bed sick
2. How does this typify Christ? How was he crowned by His mother? This is not speaking of Mary, his natural mother. **Galatians 4:26** says that the heavenly Jerusalem is the **mother of us all**. When Jesus rose from the dead he immediately went into heaven and placed His holy blood on the heavenly mercy seat. **Hebrews 9:12** He then received His crown in heaven. He was raised up and given a name above every name. **Philippians 2:9-10** He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Jesus was crowned in heaven [fig. his mother]
3. He was espoused to us the church at that point.

C. and in the day of the gladness of His heart

1. This speaks of when we are raptured. When we are raptured and go through the Judgment seat of Christ we will be presented to Him as a bride without spot or wrinkle. **Ephesians 5:27, Rev. 19:7-8** This will be the day of the gladness of His heart! He will be united completely with those whom He loves and died for.