
My prayer is that you've come to our gathering with prepared hearts, and with a desire to commune with God.

The Song of Solomon speaks of the intimate union BETWEEN Christ and His church, BETWEEN the Bridegroom and His bride, BETWEEN a Man, who is a King... and a woman who is continually made beautiful by the King's riches which He lavishes upon her.

To set the table for us: Ephesians 5:25-32, 2
Corinthians 11:2

The marriage union of Christ and His church is SO MUCH MORE than any earthly marriage. In the best earthly marriage BETWEEN a man/woman there is sin, infirmity, and the eventual parting and separation at death, but THAT will never happen in our union with Christ!

Child of God, your salvation, your union with Christ, and your eternal inheritance is incorruptible and undefiled... It shall not fade away... you will never be parted from Christ. From this perspective, of being united to Christ by faith, KNOW, that it only gets better!

My heart desire and prayer for each of you, is that
YOUR UNION with Christ IS LIKE THIS!

Last week: "My beloved is mine, and I am His"

What a powerful confession from the heart of the bride, speaking of her union and love for the bridegroom. This should be the confession of every one of our hearts as Christians regarding our relationship with Christ.

If you're a child of God, the bride's heart confession
"should be" what is in YOUR heart! "My beloved is
mine, and I am His"

You've heard me say that we ought to enjoy the "felt presence of Christ"; the bride's confession (in V16) speaks to her "felt security" which she had with Him. I KNOW that I am Christ's, and I know that Christ is MINE! I OWN Christ as mine, Christ OWNS me as His! Psalm 73:25-26

Do you OWN God like this? Do you OWN Christ in such a way that He wants to be OWNED, possessed, and loved?

To complete our review: "My beloved is mine, AND I AM
HIS"! The bride spoke of HER BELOVED Lord, now she
says of herself, I am Christ's! ALL OF ME is
Christ's! Body and Soul!

To be owned/possessed by Christ should be the greatest comfort to your soul! CAN YOU...DO YOU say what the bride says, and is it the fervent cry of your love to Christ from your heart? IS {"I am His"} the spiritual yearning of your heart? Ezekiel 16:8

If you are "bought with a price"; "redeemed by the
precious blood of Christ", what you're saying is, I
BELONG TO CHRIST!

Now to Song 2:16B: The bride tells us that she KNOWS where the Bridegroom is... "He feedeth among the lilies".

All I know is, wherever Christ is feeding, that's where I WANT TO feed; I want to partake of that which He is partaking of, I want to be in the pasture of His choosing. Do you remember: Song 1:7-8.

"He feedeth" ... "feeding" here means to shepherd, to rule, to associate, to tend. "Among the lilies": Do remember... in Song 2:2 when the bridegroom spoke of His bride as "the lily among thorns"

The church of the Lord Jesus Christ in the world is like a beautiful lily among thorns... she is persecuted, distressed, hated, she suffers, she is always delivered unto death...ALL for the sake of Christ; she is the lily among thorns.

Ezekiel 2:6: Every way you turn, you are entangled!

But ALL is well if Christ, our is among us, shepherding, guiding, and feeding us. THAT is why it is SO important for you TO GATHER with the saints, so that you might be fed by the Words of Christ!

Christ is in the midst of His people..among them!

Revelation 1:12-13

Psalm 23:4: "Christ prepares a table for US... IN THE PRESENCE of OUR enemies". HE sets the table!

Do you remember Ruth, IT JUST SO HAPPENED that she found herself gleaning in Boaz's field, of He who would be her "Kinsman Redeemer", AND, once she was there, she didn't go to any other field. Ruth 2:4-9

Beloved, the bride KNEW where her Beloved was feeding; if we know where Christ is going to feed His people, we must come to that place, to the gathering of the saints, to His pasture to eat and drink of that which He will feed us.

What did Luke write: Acts 20:28

Song 2:17: "Until the DAY... BREAK, and the shadows flee away, turn, my beloved, and be thou like a roe or a young hart upon the mountains of Bether."

In this passage, the bride PLEADS with the bridegroom, and her prayer is, UNTIL the breaking of day... and... UNTIL the darkness/shadows flee away... TURN, My Beloved, and come to me! COME like a swift roebuck or a young deer when he is running through the mountains.

The bride seems HERE to be IN A TIME when she could not detect the bridegroom's presence with her... He was in the shadows of her sight...

HENCE, her heart yearned for Him to "turn about" or as it means "turn back" or "come back" to her.

"Until the day...break, and the shadows flee away, TURN, My Beloved", come back to me...run back to me quickly and swiftly, like the young deer that run quickly upon the mountains!

We will see next time, in the beginning of Song 3, that the bride COULD NOT FIND her beloved; we read of her "seeking for Him" who was the love of her soul. I am not sure what it was that brought her into this place of losing His "presence", but THIS, what SHE DID, IS what we should do when we find ourselves in such a place. "I sought Him whom my soul loveth"

Beloved, as long as we are in this life, in which, we must walk by faith and not by sight, our hearts should yearn for the presence of Christ, in our devotions, in our prayers and meditations... and here in our gatherings...

Wherever the flock is, that is where we should want to be... where Christ is feeding, that is where I want to feed!

In closing: "Until the DAY-BREAK, and the shadows flee away"

I think there are (2) dawning/breaking days, one has already happened: Christ's first coming into the world: Luke 1:76-79

But then, there will be the breaking of that eternal day... which will be the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls! When there will be no more dimness, shadows, or seeing Christ through a glass darkly!

Psalm 17:15, Proverbs 4:18, 2 Peter 1:16-19, 1 John 3:2