

THE BELOVED

This book is written by Solomon (1:1) who wrote over 1000 songs (1 Kings 4). This is probably, therefore, his favorite song about His favorite wife.

It is also thought to be a picture of Jehovah and His people Israel. They are seen often as “married” or at least betrothed throughout the prophetic writings, most notably Hosea.

It is one of the two books of the Old Testament that do not mention the name of God.

5:1

I have come to my garden, in answer to the woman (4:16). **my sister**, She is apparently the most important of a good many (6:8). **my spouse**; We see that this is perhaps in view of the woman being the closest neighbor (in answer to “love your neighbor as yourself” in Leviticus) and therefore, called **sister**.

They were married as seen in the festival depicted in 2:3-4 and perhaps the consummation in 3:1-4.

I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk.

(TO HIS FRIENDS)

Eat, O^d friends! Drink, yes, drink deeply, O beloved ones!

THE SHULAMITE

5:2-8

I sleep, but my heart is awake; *It is the voice of my beloved!* Ephesians 1:6 speaks of Jesus being the **beloved**. So Paul sees this and makes it quite clear in Ephesians 5:25 and says that Solomon’s Song was about Christ and His people.

He knocks, Acts 14:27 “opened the door of faith to the Gentiles”. In John 10:9, Jesus is the door which makes a lot of sense in the Christological ark of Noah (7:1) which had one door. James 5:9 finds the judge of Heaven “at the door.” *saying*,

“Open for me, my sister, my love, My dove, my perfect one; For my head is covered with dew, My locks with the drops of the night.” **3 I have taken off my robe; How can I put it on *again*?** The Beloved came when it was the right time, even if it wasn’t convenient for the wife. He came with expedience. **I have washed my feet; How can I defile them?** **4 My beloved put his hand By the ⁴*latch of the door***, Whatever this means, it communicates that He was struggling to get in the door to be with her (a “struggle” implies great persistence), and it appears that she is now affected. We are not saying this is the salvation experience for they are already married.

This is rather a movement for intimacy for two who already belong to one another.

And my heart yearned for him. 5 I arose to open for my beloved, And my hands dripped *with myrrh*, He came and left His lingering fragrance. We cannot outrun His nurturing influence. Imagine having the Beloved in His fullness and His essence if what He leaves behind is this sweet. **My fingers with liquid myrrh, On the handles of the lock. 6 I opened for my beloved, But my beloved had turned away *and* was gone. My heart leaped up when he spoke. ^f**I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer. 7 The watchmen who went about the city found me.** As they did earlier, but this time their reaction is different. Perhaps they are tired of how she had bragged about her relationship with the King heretofore. **They****

^d Luke 15:7, 10; John 3:29

^e Rev. 3:20

⁴ opening

^f Song 3:1

struck me, they wounded me; The keepers of the walls Took my veil away from me. 8 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, If you find my beloved, That you tell him I *am* lovesick!

THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM

5:9

What *is* your beloved More than *another* beloved, O fairest among women? What *is* your beloved More than *another* beloved, That you so charge us?

THE SHULAMITE

5:10-6:1

¹⁰ My beloved *is* white and ruddy,

⁷ Chief among ten thousand.

¹¹ His head *is like* the finest gold;

His locks *are* wavy,

And black as a raven.

¹² His eyes *are* like doves

By the rivers of waters,

Washed with milk,

And ⁸fitly set.

¹³ His cheeks *are* like a bed of spices,

Banks of scented herbs.

His lips *are* lilies,

Dripping liquid myrrh.

¹⁴ His hands *are* rods of gold

Set with beryl.

His body *is* carved ivory

Inlaid *with* sapphires.

¹⁵ His legs *are* pillars of marble

Set on bases of fine gold.

His countenance *is* like Lebanon,

Excellent as the cedars.

¹⁶ His mouth *is* most sweet,

Yes, he *is* altogether lovely.

This *is* my beloved,

And this *is* my friend,

O daughters of Jerusalem!

6 Where has your beloved gone,

^aO fairest among women?

Where has your beloved turned aside,

That we may seek him with you?

THE SHULAMITE

² My beloved has gone to his ^bgarden, She has found Him! Will He reject her? Look at verse 4. He is not hard to turn to His repentant lover.

To the beds of spices,

To feed *his flock* in the gardens,

⁷ Distinguished

ⁱ Song 1:15; 4:1

⁸ sitting in a setting

^a Song 1:8; 5:9

^b Song 4:16; 5:1

And to gather lilies.

³ *I am my beloved's,*

And my beloved is mine. Here is our reunion and we find that the **Beloved** provides enduring performance. "I will go to His gardens since I have made Him feel as though He is not wanted at the house."

He feeds his flock among the lilies.

THE BELOVED

⁴ **O my love, you are as beautiful as Tirzah,**

Lovely as Jerusalem,

Awesome as an army with banners!

⁵ **Turn your eyes away from me,**

For they have ¹overcome me.

Your hair is ^dlike a flock of goats

Going down from Gilead.

^c Song 2:16; 7:10

¹ overwhelmed

^d Song 4:1