

A Tour Through the Divine Library  
(The Song of Songs)

I. General Introduction to the Song

- Title: Song of Songs (v. 1): the best of songs; Canticles (Latin: “a series of songs”)
  
- Author: Solomon (1 Kings 4:32); or someone else (v. 1: “the Song which is about Solomon”)
  
- Date: Sometime during the 960s BC?
  
- Interpretation: Allegorical; Typological; Naturalistic; Inferential
  - The Song records historical events; pay attention to details; the Song reminds us of a greater higher, perfect love
  
- Structure: Speakers (bride; bridegroom; daughters of Jerusalem)
  - I. The Courtship: Love Commenced (1:1-3:5)
  - II. The Wedding: Love Consummated (3:6-5:1)
  - III. The Marriage: Love Confirmed (5:2-8:14)

II. Overview of the Song

III. Christ in the Song

- The Song is suggestive of Christ’s love for the church (Hos. 2:19, 20; Eph. 5:25)

Iain M. Duguid: “*The Song is designed to show each of us how far short of perfection we fall, both as humans and as lovers, and to drive us into the arms of our true heavenly husband, Jesus Christ, whose love for His bride is truly perfect.*”

IV. Prominent Themes and Practical Lessons in the Song

1) The Song designates the essential parameters of human marital love.

- one man and one woman in a context of covenantal commitment for life

2) The Song celebrates the eminent virtues of human marital love.

- Legitimacy and Purity; Joy and Beauty

3) The Song advocates the elevated significance of human marital love.

- Human, marital love is a faint reflection of God’s unfailing, unwavering love for His people in Christ.