

Last time: "My mother's children were angry with me; they made me keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept"

Who are "my mother's children"? Those who are close to the bride, who should love and help her, and be close and supportive of her; but instead, they are said to be angry with her.

These humans could be either "false brethren" or, as in the case of the Lord Jesus, in the days of His humanity, His own family who did not believe in Him. Christian, you will have humans in your life, those who should be close to you, but who will be against you because you follow Christ even in your own family. "A man's foes shall be they of his own household"

The bride then declares, "they made me the keeper of the vineyards"; these same persons will put their burdens upon you, because they know you are trustworthy, diligent, and responsible. And we ought to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ", but in doing so, we MUST NOT NEGLECT our own vineyard, our own spiritual responsibilities, and our souls!

This leads the bride (V7) to cry out to the bridegroom for help! His response to her cry: (V8).

Song 1:7: "Tell me, O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon?"

TELL ME saith the bride: Where do you feed your flock? TELL ME, where your pasture is, that blessed gathering of your people, so that I may ALSO be in YOUR COMPANY and in the company and fellowship of your FLOCK?

This should be your heart-cry when you stray and wander from Christ and His church!

For those who SAY, I don't need the church, I don't need to gather with the saints... that is like saying, I don't need Christ, I don't need shepherding, I don't need to sit at His feet with the saints to be fed and instructed and taught the ways His Kingdom!

It is like saying: I don't need His governing hand over my life. I don't need His rod and staff; I don't need correction; I don't need the sweet company and fellowship of other saints and of the flock of God.

Here in (V7), the bride recognized her condition, therefore she cried out; TELL ME, Lord, where you feed your flock and where you make them lie down to rest, so that I may ALSO come to you and join them under your care! *Psalm 23:1-2, Ezekiel 34:11-16, 1 Peter 5:1-4*

Don't miss how the bride addresses the bridegroom; "O thou whom my soul loveth"; how can one be a lover of Christ and NOT desire to be gathered with His church and flock at the feet of Christ? *Hebrews 10:23-25*

(V7B): "For why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions". Ruth 2:8-9

I want NO OTHER shepherd and no other pasture! The bride feared being turned aside from the bridegroom to "another shepherd"; WE should fear being "turned aside" from following our Lord! John 10:1-16, 27-30

TELL ME, saith the bride to the bridegroom, where you feed your flock?

Song 1:8: "If thou know not, O thou fairest among women, go thy way forth by the footsteps of the flock, and feed thy kids beside the shepherd's tents"

It is as if He tells her, WHY DON'T YOU KNOW where I feed my flock?

IF YOU DON'T KNOW where I feed my flock, saith the bridegroom, that is because you're not following me. GET UP, go forth and FOLLOW the footsteps and tracks of my faithful flock, FOLLOW those THAT ARE FOLLOWING ME, saith the Lord, and you will find ME and my flock!

1 Corinthians 11:1, 1 Thessalonians 1:5-8, 2:14, Hebrews 6:11-12

The bridegroom now speaks of the beauty and comeliness of His bride and what He admires in her!

Song 1:9: "I have compared thee, (or likened thee) O my love, to a company of horses in Pharaoh's chariots"

What is this? What is there in the bride that the bridegroom would liken or compare to a horse? But not just any horse, a company of the finest horses, horses on Pharaoh's chariots. And, WHY Pharaoh's horses and chariots? 1 Kings 3:1, 11:1, 9:15-16

1 Kings 10:26-29, 4:26, 2 Chronicles 1:13-17

Solomon no doubt had a love for horses; Pharaoh's horses and chariots were the best to be had. But what of this comparison? How is the bride likened or TO BE compared to a company of horses in Pharaoh's chariots? How is there beauty in a horse? What does the Christ see in His church that He would compare her to a horse?

Do you remember when God spoke to Job about the horse, when God demanded Job answer his question:

"Hast thou given the horse strength?" Did you put within him his boldness and his fearlessness?

THIS passage of God speaking to Job MAY HELP us, not only TO SEE, but to understand what the bridegroom beheld in a company of Pharaoh's horses, which He compared and likened to that which was beautiful and comely in His bride! Job 39:19-25

As God gave the horse strength, a courageous spirit, and fearlessness in battle; so, Christ, in this passage, admired the strength and beauty of His church; NOT her own strength, or a strength that came from within her, but His strength and His Spirit in her, given to her by

Him! Just like the horse, whose strength is God-Given!
That is what I believe the bridegroom beheld!
I love this ALSO, the horse is not affrighted and
doesn't turn back!