

III. **GOD'S** RESPONSE TO SEX

- A. He responds with **approval**.

"I have come to my garden, my sister, my spouse; I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk." Song Of Solomon 5:1

- B. He responds with approval because they are a **husband** and **wife** who are **male** and **female**.

"24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed." Genesis 2:24-25

"24 Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,

25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due." Romans 1:24-27

Our Response Should Be To Commit To God's Plan For Sex

"3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;

4 that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor,

5 not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God;"

I Thessalonians 4:3-5

GOD, ROMANCE, AND MARRIAGE

Sex

Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

- A. Are you single and looking for love? Are you married and wanting to improve your love? Romantic relationships affect everyone! Whether you are single or married, young or old, how you handle romantic relationships will change you – for better or for worse.

- B. The Bible book called the Song Of Solomon is a roadmap to romance. It is a love song written by Solomon, *"The song of songs, which is Solomon's"* (1:1). It tells the story of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon. In the Song Of Solomon, God has given us a divine manual on romantic relationships, taking us from the initial attraction between a couple through courtship, marriage, honeymoon, sex, conflict and deepening intimacy. The key verse says, *"My beloved is mine, and I am his...."* (2:16a).

- C. In this series we are going to focus on the following topics:

Feb 21	Boy Meets Girl (Attraction)
Feb 28	Tying The Knot (Marriage)
TODAY	Sex (Intimacy)
Mar 13	Conflict *!@#! (Resolution)
Mar 20	Making Love Last (Commitment)

Come and hear these messages and discover how to have emotionally satisfying relationships and marriage.

- D. **TEXT:** Song Of Solomon 4:1-5:1 (Pew Bible/Pg. 661/Old Testament)

- The **world** talks too **much** about sex.
- The **church** talks too **little** about sex.

THREE RESPONSES TO SEX

I. THE **HUSBAND'S** RESPONSE TO SEX

A. He responds to what he **sees**.

"...So the eyes of man are never satisfied."

Proverbs 27:20b

"Behold, you are fair, my love! Behold, you are fair! You have dove's eyes behind your veil. Your hair is like a flock of goats, Going down from Mount Gilead.

2 Your teeth are like a flock of shorn sheep Which have come up from the washing, Every one of which bears twins, And none is barren among them.

3 Your lips are like a strand of scarlet, And your mouth is lovely. Your temples behind your veil Are like a piece of pomegranate.

4 Your neck is like the tower of David, Built for an armory, On which hang a thousand bucklers, All shields of mighty men.

5 Your two breasts are like two fawns, Twins of a gazelle, Which feed among the lilies."

Song Of Solomon 4:1-5

B. He responds to his **spouse**.

"...you shall not covet your neighbor's wife,"

Exodus 20:17b

"9 You have ravished my heart, My sister, my spouse; You have ravished my heart With one look of your eyes, With one link of your necklace.

10 How fair is your love, My sister, my spouse! How much better than wine is your love, And the scent of your perfumes Than all spices!

11 Your lips, O my spouse, Drip as the honeycomb; Honey and milk are under your tongue; And the fragrance of your garments Is like the fragrance of Lebanon.

12 A garden enclosed Is my sister, my spouse, A spring shut up, A fountain sealed."

Song Of Solomon 4:9-12

II. THE **WIFE'S** RESPONSE TO SEX

"Awake, O north wind, And come, O south! Blow upon my garden, That its spices may flow out. Let my beloved come to his garden And eat its pleasant fruits"

Song Of Solomon 4:16

A. She responds to the **timing**.

"I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, By the gazelles or by the does of the field, Do not stir up nor awaken love Until it pleases."

Song Of Solomon 2:7

"By night on my bed I sought the one I love; I sought him, but I did not find him." Song Of Solomon 3:1

"Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge." Hebrews 13:4

B. She responds to the **treatment**.

"You are all fair, my love, And there is no spot in you."

Song Of Solomon 4:7

"28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church." Ephesians 5:28-29

"Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife,..."

I Peter 3:7a