

## Overview & Key Points of The Song of Solomon

- Outline of the Song
  - ★The **Courtship** (Before marriage LEAVING) (Chs 1-3)
  - ★The **Wedding** (Getting married/the '*night*'; CLEAVING)(Chs 3-5)
  - ★The **Marriage** (During marriage; WEAVING; maturing) (Chs 5-8)
- Key Verse- 7:10 - I am my beloved's and his desire is toward me.
- **The Wonder of LOVE from song of Solomon**
  1. **Foundation** of love — mutual satisfaction; selfless, self-denying.
  2. **Strength** of love — the strongest commitment in life; the unfailing commitment to choose to serve and satisfy the other more than self. True LOVE, a Christlike love **Will Not Fail**. Stands on covenant!
  3. **How to** of love — Solomon reaches out to his Shulamite woman with intensity, initiative, with passion, and protection. She responds by yielding to him and trusting him and giving herself to him fully. They're exclusive & hot with love for one another. Not selfish, but self-less. He leads. She follows.
  4. **Fruits** of love — contentment and joy and pleasure & worship thrive in a committed, covenant relationship of intimate, permanent and private love. As Christ gladdens us, so a husband gladdens his wife!
- “**The Song was written to give us wisdom: 2 choruses:**
  - To the **unmarried** -- the wisdom to wait & don't open the wedding-gift of sexual pleasure UNTIL the marriage covenant occurs.
  - To the **married** -- the wisdom to keep the marriage fire stoked, hot & close.

### Never forget!

When you develop a satisfying sexual relationship with your spouse, you honor God as the Creator and Designer of Sex”. **Why?** Because marriage is a pointer to Christ & His Church. The closeness & intimacy of marriage is really not the end, it's a pointer, a mystery, a sign-post, a neon-arrow showing there's a greater relationship of joyous togetherness that will last forevermore — the relationship of Jesus Christ and His Church whom He loved & died for.

So, be faithful, be pure, be holy!

### A few principles to remember here in Prov 5:

- ♣This is **BIBLICAL** — it is in the Bible (not scribbled on a dirty NYC subway)
- ♣This is **POETIC** — it's full of images/pictures (evocative, erotic, sexual images, metaphors)
- ♣This is **INSTRUCTIVE** — it is meant to instruct, teach and guide you [you're \*not\* to follow your heart; you must receive & heed instruction.]
- ♣This is **CAUTIONARY** — it is to guard you and prevent you from destroying your life & soul [*unrestrained sexual sin will lead to unimaginable, eternal agony*]
- ♣This is **WISDOM** — it is wisdom literature = gives you skill for living >> knowledge leading to God-fearing conduct.

**SEXUAL INTIMACY IN MARRIAGE IS TO BE:**

1. Exclusive
2. Frequent
3. Pleasurable
4. Selfless
5. Protective [private/not publicized/no intruders]
6. Prioritized [we all get busy; keep the marriage union vibrant & close]

**The point of Prov 5?** Building a SOLID and HEALTHY marriage is a wonderful safeguard against temptation and sexual sin outside the marriage.

**THESIS — Proverbs 5 warns of the \*dangers\* of sexual immorality & now gives the \*DELIGHTS of MARITAL LOVE\*.**

We'll understand this portion in two main Fatherly exhortations:

1. **Unlock** sexual satisfaction with marital fidelity (15-19)
2. **Unleash** the power of God's omniscience (20-23)

**I. UNLOCK SEXUAL SATISFACTION WITH MARITAL FIDELITY! (15-19)****A. Faithful to your wife (15)****B. Fleeing from all others (16)****C. Fervent with relational joy (18)**

**D. Frequent in sexual pleasure (19)**

Note the need to \*communicate\* well, openly, honestly and clearly in the marriage.

- Godly wife, present yourself to your husband as attractively as you can – lovely, graceful, and appealing and pleasing to him and to HIM alone.
- Dear wife, consider: how can you present yourself to your husband as attractively as you can to him? Lovely? Graceful? Appealing? Ways that he enjoys?
- Christian wife: think of this, and ponder this amazing thought: out of all the women on the earth today, you – and you alone – are the only morally legitimate satisfaction of your husband’s thirst for sexual enjoyment. Again, Christian wife: YOU. YOU ALONE. NO ONE ELSE in the world.
- Consider thinking through these suggestions to ask your husband: How can I please you more? What do you like? What can I wear? Do you prefer my hair up or down? What do you enjoy?

a) **Quality** of sex -

b) **Quantity** of sex

- Don’t deprive one another (1 Cor 7:3-5). **In 1 Cor 7:3-5, there are 3 main principles:**
  - (1) Your body is not yours but your spouses (belongs to him)
  - (2) denying sex to one another is never legitimate
  - (3) abstaining from sex should only happen when 3 conditions are met: (1) you both agree to it; (2) it is temporary; (3) it is only for a specific season of prayer.

**II. UNLEASH THE POWER OF GOD’S OMNISCIENT EYE! (20-23)****A. God knows everything! (20-21)**

1. v.20 - explanation & reason/rationale
  
2. v.21 - God sees it all! Never forget God’s watchful eye!

**B. Guard against folly! (22-23)**

See the downward spiral:

1. You’ll be CAPTURED (22a) — he’s trapped; tripped in the net.
2. You’ll be HELD (22b) — he’s fastened, held; bound; tangled up within.
3. You’ll be FOOLISH (23a) — because he ‘rejected correction/instruction.
4. You’ll be STRAYING (23b) — the fool loses his senses & staggeringly goes astray toward his own death.

***A few big picture points & observations:***

1. Your Sexuality is a **Gift** from God.
2. God **designed** sex & sexual pleasure.
3. Marriage is the context for **exclusive & frequent** intimacy.
4. Persistent Immorality **Shuts** People out of heaven.
5. Christ’s **Grace** can wash all your sin clean!

“Unbeknownst to the people of Moses’ day, God created human marriage to be a display of the relationship with Christ and His church. That means, how you communicate with your spouse, how you care for each other, how you are intimate & sexually active together, how you show affection toward each

**Proverbs 5:15-23 — “The Delights of Frequent, Satisfying & Exclusive Marital Love”**

other, how you always speak well of your spouse, how you parent together, how you handle the finances, how you run your home together, how you work as a team... all of these things model the relationship of Christ and the church to those watching you” (Deepak Reju).

Your marriage is a *display* of the gospel. *Gospel-centered marriages use daily human struggles to point to a much greater marriage—the relationship between the groom, Christ, and His beautiful bride, the church.*”

## IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say,  
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

### Refrain

**It is well, with my soul,  
It is well, with my soul,  
It is well, it is well, with my soul.**

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—  
My sin—not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

But, Lord, ‘tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,  
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;  
Oh trump of the angel! Oh voice of the Lord!  
Blessèd hope, blessèd rest of my soul!

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;  
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,  
“Even so”—it is well with my soul.