

**Song of Solomon 7: 1; “The Prince’s Daughter’s Feet – Beautiful”, Sermon # 58  
in the series – “I am My Beloved’s”, Delivered by Pastor Paul Rendall  
on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, in the Afternoon Worship Service.**

It is amazing as we look at these verses that the Bridegroom King gives so many intricate descriptions of His Bride. It is because she is so very beautiful. From verses 1-9 we have 10 descriptions given to us, of the beauty of her form, and the clothes that she is wearing. But there is a difference between the way that He describes her here in these verses from the way that He described her in Chapter 4, verses 1-5 and Chapter 6, verses 4-7. He looks at her in this passage; not from the head down, but rather from her feet up. There is a reason for this. It is because as the believer grows up into spiritual maturity, Christ would have them to see that they have been called into fellowship with Him in order that they might bear fruit to His name.

This applies to all of us who would be Christ’s faithful followers. If you are growing spiritually, you will now find yourself in a position to serve Him and to promote His glory. The question is – Will you do it? Will your love for Him translate into deeds for Him? This is the time for Christ to be able to admire your walking with Him in truth and righteousness, and showing it forth by good deeds. Here in this verse we find Christ’s description of His Bride beginning with His looking at her feet, and in turn He expects that you, as an individual Christian, will also look at your feet spiritually speaking. Your beginning to become more useful and fruitful to Him, He knows, will not begin with His consideration or commendation of the beauty of your head; that is, what you know, or how intelligent you are, but rather with His consideration of your spiritual beauty in regard to what can do for Him; and more specifically in regard to your walk with Him.

You as a believer are a part of the body of Christ. You are a part of His spiritual Bride. You are the ones whom He loves and has died for. Because of what He has done for you at the cross, and because of what He is doing for you now by His imputed righteousness and imparted grace, you are beautiful to Him. But that beauty of grace is a beauty which He believes should lead to righteous and holy actions. That is what these verses are talking about, and so we should see that we do need to learn together now about the various kinds of beauty that Christ beholds when He looks at us, His Bride, the Church. He wants every believer to see that spiritually speaking, His Bride’s feet are beautiful and useful to Him. Therefore, let me give you a couple of principles of truth which may help you in your walk with Christ.

**1<sup>st</sup> of all, greater usefulness and fruitfulness in Christ’s service in the future is based upon greater fellowship with Him now.**

“How beautiful are your feet in sandals, O prince’s daughter.” Here is the fellowship of spiritual companionship and communion with Christ. Will you not let Him make observations on you and the beauty that He has clothed you with? This is a very common and practical thing between those who are betrothed; for the Bridegroom to make observations on things which are small, but they are not unimportant. For He knows that they are soon to be married and they will be doing many good things together. A comment, like this on her shoes, He knew, would lead to her thinking of where she might go, and what she might do in those shoes. Such it is in the life of a Christian also.

Let me ask you if you have come to realize what you have been called to as a Christian? You have been called to a holy walk with Christ. He has saved you and He has called you with a holy calling, not according to your works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to you in Christ Jesus before time began, it says in 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 1, verse 9. And His purpose in terms of your usefulness and fruitfulness will be communicated to you in relation to the fellowship that you will have with Him now, not sometime in the future. If you will turn over with me to 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians chapter 1, verses 8 and 9, you will see this fellowship mentioned. “I

thank my God always concerning you for the grace of God which was given to you by Christ Jesus, that you were enriched in everything by Him in all utterance and all knowledge, even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you, so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will also confirm you to the end, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.” “God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Now, you can see here, that each and every Christian, and all of us together as His Church, are called into the fellowship of our Lord. We have been enriched in everything by Him and we have been brought into this heart relationship with Him. Concerning the church at Corinth, the testimony of Christ was confirmed in them in that they have been given all the spiritual gifts that they needed to glorify Christ; and they were eagerly waiting the revelation of Christ to them. Paul is saying that Christ would be faithful to confirm them to the end; that is, to the end of their lives which would be a further revelation of Christ to their spirit, in their being made perfect in their spirit. And He would be faithful to confirm them to the end in terms of His glorifying their body, reuniting soul and body back together again in the Day when He returned, which would be the ultimate revelation of Himself to them as believers.

But what they were called to, while they waited for these glorious things to take place in their lives, was to have fellowship with their Lord while they lived, so that this fellowship would lead to their greater and more active obedience in serving Him, and learning to walk more closely with Him. Let me put this to you this way: If you are understanding correctly, as a Christian, what you have been called to, in your relationship with your Lord Jesus Christ, your Shepherd-King, you should increasingly be coming to the place in your experience where you realize that He has called you into a spiritual love relationship with Himself.

And this love relationship will lead you to take further steps of obedience to Christ and to His word, as time goes by. “If you love Me,” Jesus says, “keep My commandments.” You have been called by His grace being extended to you. You are now part of the Bride of Christ, who is described here as a Prince’s daughter. You are now a child of the King of glory and you are betrothed to Him, and someday you will be spiritually married to this King of glory forever. He has loved you with an everlasting love and therefore with lovingkindness He has drawn you. (Jeremiah 31: 3 and 4) “Again He will build you, and you shall be rebuilt, O virgin of Israel!” “You shall again be adorned with your tambourines, and shall go forth in the dances of those who rejoice.”

These things began for you, dear Christian, when you were called into the fellowship of God’s dear Son, who is your Lord. You have been called to become a part of His mystical spiritual body; His Church. And this spiritual fellowship that you are having with Him will grow because of His faithfulness to communicate to you His life and His grace, His wisdom in doing things, and in His giving you the ability and opportunity to serve Him. All this will flow out of your fellowship with your Lord. Your cultivation of fellowship in the here and now, will lead to greater fruitfulness as you go about to live your life with Christ and walk with Him. There is the fellowship of learning to imitate God.

Ephesians 5: 1 – “Therefore be imitators of God as dear children, and walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.” If Christ has loved me and given Himself for me, we should think to ourselves, then can I not offer up my body to Him as a living sacrifice; holy, acceptable to Him?” Will this not be my reasonable service of worship; that I not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of my mind, that I may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God? (Romans 12: 1 and 2)

There is also the fellowship of walking in the light. Ephesians 5: 8 – “For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.” “Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the

Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth, finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.”  
“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.”

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Greater usefulness and fruitfulness will come to you in your witness for Christ if you will wear these sandals.**

These sandals were the particular sandals which Christ was delighted to see that His Bride was wearing, for they are a part of the garments of salvation which He has given her to wear. “How beautiful are your feet in sandals, O prince’s daughter.” The beauty of Christ’s bride, the Church is something that she is clothed with by Christ Himself. And the sandals are no exception. Turn with me over to Ezekiel chapter 16, verse 8. Speaking of the time when He showed love and mercy to Old Testament Israel when they first became a nation under God’s care, a picture of what God does in the conversion of individual undeserving sinners under the New Covenant. He pities them, and He saves them from their sins, and then He prepares them for His loving spiritual interaction with them, and for their fruitfulness in His service.

Then He says: “When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness.” “Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine,” says the Lord God.” “Then I washed you in water; yes, I thoroughly washed off your blood, and I anointed you with oil.” “I clothed you in embroidered cloth and gave you sandals of badger skin; I clothed you with fine linen and covered you with silk.” “I adorned you with ornaments, and put bracelets on your wrists, and a chain on your neck.”

You can see here the many garments of salvation which were placed upon her, but the one I want to focus on now is the sandals of badger skin. The sandals of badger skin here are the same metaphorical picture as the sandals which are mentioned in Song of Solomon 7, verse 1. And I believe that they are representative of the fact that God intends that the believer’s walk be a holy walk so that they will be serving Him in holiness. Verses 13 and 14 of Ezekiel 16 say: “Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through My splendor which I had bestowed on you, says the Lord God.” This was the intention and plan of God in that Old Testament time; that His people’s fame would go out among the nations because of Israel’s beauty, for that beauty was perfect through God’s splendor which was bestowed on them.

This is also the intention and plan of God in New Testament times that the fame of Christ’s Bride, His Church, would go out among the nations because of the beauty of holiness in Christ’s people, and their preaching the gospel to all the nations. Look with me over at Romans chapter 10, and verses 14 and 15. “How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?” “And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?” “And how shall they hear without a preacher?” “And how shall they preach unless they are sent?” “As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!’”

The feet of the believer who preaches the gospel of peace, that is peace between God and men through faith in what our Lord Jesus Christ has done for them, by means of His righteous life and sacrificial death; this is beautiful in His sight. The sandals that the New Testament believer wears are the sandals of truth; and specifically the truth of the gospel. We are to walk in these sandals of truth and to have our waist girded with truth as it says in Ephesians chapter 6, verse 14 – “Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.”

Let me ask you, dear Christian, have you put on these sandals? Galatians 3: 27 says: “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.” For as many of you as were baptized into

Christ, (that is – spiritually baptized into Christ) have put on Christ.” (You have “clothed yourselves with Christ” it says in the NAS.) I would like to ask you whether you have your sandals on today? Are you prepared to share Christ with people around you? Are your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace? Are you ready to think about what is pleasing to our Lord in this regard? “How beautiful are your feet in sandals, O prince’s daughter!”

In Mark 6, verse 7 we find Jesus sending out the 12 twelve to preach repentance. It says: “And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them power over unclean spirits.” “He commanded them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bag, no bread, no copper in their money belts – but to wear sandals, and to put on two tunics.” In verse 12 it says So they went out and preached that people should repent.” I am told that sandals were different from shoes in that day; they were more fit to travel with. The Christian is to go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them and teaching them to observe all that He has commanded. Dear Christian, are you ready to do this?

### **3<sup>rd</sup> – Greater usefulness and fruitfulness will come to you when you learn to redeem the time.**

It says here in the last part of verse 1 of our text: “The curves of your thighs are like jewels.” John Gill says: “It seems best by these “joints” or “turnings of the thighs” by which they move more orderly and regularly, to understand the principles of the walk and conversation (that is the behavior) of the saints, as one observes; without which it cannot be ordered aright; for principles denominate actions, good and bad; and the principles of grace, by which believers move in their Christian walk, are as valuable and as precious as jewels, such as faith and love, and a regard to the glory of God; and which are curiously wrought by the finger of God, by His Holy Spirit, who works in them both to will and to do of His good pleasure.” (Philippians 2: 13)

Listen also to Ephesians 5, verses 15-21. “See, then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.” “Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” What a timely warning we have here, that we would walk circumspectly; that we would not walk as fools, but as wise. Are you redeeming the time? Are you living to have fellowship with Christ and learning to do those things that are pleasing to Him?

Let me close by saying this: Walking with Christ today will lead to further developments in what He would have you to do in the future, to glorify Him. But you only have so much time that is given to you, and so therefore, you do need to be wise and redeem it; to improve all that has been shown you and given to you. He would have you to walk in the truth and walk in love, and walk circumspectly. (That is – carefully and thoughtfully think through the issues of your life) Your walk is what Christ looks at. And as the years go by, I pray that each of you will be pressing on to know the Lord. I pray that you will be looking forward to the greater revelation of Christ’s glory. And, that increasingly you will be thinking about the blessed hope and glorious appearing of your great God and Savior, Jesus Christ; that glorious Day when the marriage will be consummated; when He comes again in the glory of His Father, and the glory of the holy angels.

Someday Jesus will come again. And on that great Day He will complete your salvation, and the salvation of all of His own, who make up His Bride. Someday, you, dear believer, will be glorified by Christ, and you shall be perfect. But does this mean that Christ does not see any beauty in you now; or in His Church now, even though the Day of His return has not yet arrived? No, we must not think that way, and these verses will not let us think that way, because here in Chapter 7, verse 1, Christ’s focus is upon your feet, dear Christian. I hope that you will

understand that Christ, even now, is looking at how you walk, and He sees it as beautiful when you have the sandals on, and that your walk is holy and righteous. Do not live for the world or the things of the world, for the world is passing away and the lusts thereof. But the one who does the will of God shall abide forever. “For you are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”