

SONG OF SONGS 7

- REVIEW...

- o Interpretation...
 - There are THREE main ways people try to INTERPRET this book...
 - FIRST - the LITERAL - it is ONLY a love story between a man and a woman...
 - SECOND - the ALLEGORICAL - it is ONLY a picture of the relationship of God and the church...
 - THIRD - the TYPOLOGICAL admits the HISTORICAL basis for the book...
 - But APPLIES the story to the relationship between Christ and the church - **Ephesians 5:32**
- o Three Sections...
 - FIRST the Dating - **Song of Songs 1:1 - 3:5**
 - SECOND the Wedding - **Song of Songs 3:6 - 5:1**
 - THIRD the Marriage [and the problems] - **Song of Songs 5:2 - 8:14**
- o The speaker...
 - SHULAMITE [שׁוּלָמִית] - whose name means PEACE [שָׁלֵם]
 - BELOVED [דָּוִד] - the name given to Solomon [שְׁלֹמֹה] by the Shulamite - also means PEACE [שָׁלוֹם]
 - DAUGHTERS of Jerusalem - the friends of the Shulamite woman [everyone else]
- o Change of heart...
 - SOLOMON and the SHULAMITE had a fight - she would NOT open the bedroom door...
 - As a result SOLOMON ended up leaving - but the SHULAMITE knew where he went...
 - She CHOSE to HUMBLE herself and go after him - I am my beloveds and my beloved is mine...
 - Solomon was pleasantly [Tirzah] surprised when she arrived - he expected a FIGHT [banner]
 - But instead she came in PEACE [Jerusalem] - which CONVICTED Solomon [turn your eyes]
 - Because she took the FIRST step - uncertain of the outcome [garden of nuts]
 - The relationship was healed - and rather than WAR [two camps] there was peace [Shulamite]
- 1ST - REKINDLED LOVE... VS. 1-9
 - o 1st - Restoration...
 - Post-fight...
 - Because the SHULAMITE humbled herself and submitted to SOLOMON - **Ephesians 5:22**
 - Thereby convicting SOLOMON so he also HUMBLed himself and loved her - **Ephesians 5:25**
 - Rather than going to WAR - it brought PEACE [Shulamite] to their relationship...
 - And with PEACE came the opportunity to restore the INTIMACY...
 - It began with SOLOMON describing the BEAUTY of his WIFE!
 - Three to one...
 - The SHULAMITE only describes SOLOMON once in the book...
 - During their fight when she realized he was better than TEN thousand - **Song of Songs 5:10**
 - But SOLOMON described the SHULAMITE three times [three to one ratio]
 - FIRST time he described her on their wedding night - **Song of songs 4:1-5**
 - SECOND - was after their fight [she became beautiful again] - **Song of songs 6:5-7**
 - Now a THIRD time - he describes her AFTER their fight - **Song of songs 7:1-5**
 - Jen has a tendency to put on an outfit - then ask what I think...
 - My natural reaction is to say - it looks the same as the last time you put it on...
 - But I get that she is NOT asking how the OUTFIT looks - how does SHE look!
 - Men - our wives need CONSTANT reassurance of our LOVE...
 - They NEED to be told on REGULAR basis how BEAUTIFUL they are...
 - It gives them the confidence in our love - that they are the ONLY one for us...
 - We need to be wise and give our wives the ATTENTION they deserve!
 - Ten things...
 - FIRST time - SOLOMON noticed SEVEN things [from her head to her chest]
 - SECOND time - he noticed THREE things [trying to get over a fight]
 - But this final time he sees TEN things - her WHOLE body - he does NOT miss a thing!

- When Jen and I have a fight - it affects HOW we see each other...
- It is HARD to see the GOOD things - when we are focused on the BAD!
- We need to remember that when we have a FIGHT...
- We are partially blinded - and CANNOT see the best in our spouse...
- Our perspective is tainted by our emotion - and that effects our outlook...
- The only solution is to HUMBLE ourselves - that will clear things up...
- And in the end - our SPOUSE will look better than they ever had before!
- Reverse order...
 - When SOLOMON described the SHULAMITE on their wedding night...
 - He BEGAN with her head - and worked his way down [seeking the physical]
 - But here he STARTS with her feet - works his way up to her head [seeking the relational]
 - Because although the PHYSICAL can bring two people together - it will NOT sustain them...
 - There has to be MORE to the relationship - there has to be a FRIENDSHIP!
 - This is why the worlds definition of love is BROKEN...
 - They focus on the PHYSICAL - and then wonder why marriages do NOT last!
 - We are made in the image of God - we are THREE in one - **I Thessalonians 5:23**
 - We can be attracted to someone physically [body] - but that is just a THIRD of who we are...
 - We also need to have a FRIENDSHIP with them [soul]
 - And also have a common FAITH in Jesus Christ [spirit] - **II Corinthians 6:14**
- o 2nd - Her Dance... vs. 1-5
 - Her feet... vs. 1
 - The Beloved: How beautiful are your feet in sandals - O princes daughter!
 - Which brings us to the DESCRIPTION given by SOLOMON of his WIFE...
 - FIRST - he tells her how beautiful her FEET are...
 - FEET [פַּעַם] - means the beat or rhythm - not the typical word for FEET [רַגְלִי]
 - Leading many believe SOLOMON is talking about her DANCING...
 - He goes on to wisely COMPLIMENT her shoes [some things do not change]
 - As he tells her the DANCE is INVITING [רָדִי] - the word can mean WILLING...
 - The idea would seem to suggest she was being intentionally PROVOCATIVE!
 - There is some debate over if they was a PUBLIC or PRIVATE dance...
 - But considering the INTIMATE nature of the descriptions that follow...
 - It seems unlikely this was a DANCE that the SHULAMITE would have done PUBLICLY!
 - Her legs... vs. 1
 - The curves of your thighs are like jewels. The work of the hands of a skillful workman!
 - SECOND - as the eyes of SOLOMON moved up from her FEET...
 - He noted the CURVE of her THIGH - and it made him WEAK - from the root word [חָלָה]
 - He acknowledged that God [craftsman] had done a GREAT job in forming her!
 - When Jesus was teaching the Sermon on the Mount...
 - He repeated the command that we should NOT commit adultery - **Matthew 5:27**
 - But He went on to say anyone who LOOKS at a woman and lusts is GUILTY!
 - There is ONE exception - husbands we are ALLOWED to look at our wives...
 - It is NOT just allowed - it is ENCOURAGED - marvel at how amazing they are...
 - Like SOLOMON we should be noting God did a GREAT job when He made them!
 - Her navel... vs. 2
 - Your navel is a rounded goblet. It lacks no blended beverage!
 - THIRD - SOLOMON went on to describe her NAVEL [שֶׁרֶר] - only here OT
 - He likened it to a round CUP that WANTED [jussive] to be filled!
 - There is a common fashion trend today for women to EXPOSE their mid-section...

- To be clear the reason that is ATTRACTIVE to men...
- It because it is a way of saying I am NOT pregnant!
- Ladies - there are some things that are NOT meant to be seen...
- The last thing you want to do is ADVERTISE to strangers - you are NOT pregnant...
- The SHULAMITE was exposing her belly to her HUSBAND to ENTICE him!
- **I Timothy 2:9** - "[Women] should wear decent and appropriate clothing and not draw attention to themselves." [NLT]
- Her waist... vs. 2
 - Your waist is a heap of wheat set about with lilies!
 - FOURTH - her WAIST was like a bunch of WHEAT...
 - The imagery suggest she is FERTILE - will bring a good HARVEST...
 - That is was set about by LILIES - emphasizes that SOLOMON found that BEAUTIFUL!
 - We live in a world where men are pictured as NOT wanting children...
 - But that is a LIE of satan - meant to focus men only on the PHYSICAL...
 - While missing out on the greater blessings of being a DAD...
 - When a HUSBAND is in a LOVING marriage - it is NATURAL for him to desire to have KIDS!
 - **Psalms 127:3** - "Children [plural] are a gift from the LORD. They are a reward from him."
- Her breasts... vs. 3
 - Your two breasts are like two fawns. Twins of a gazelle!
 - FIFTH - He likens her BREAST to TWO fawns - TWINS [identical] of a DEAR [gazelle]
 - It is possible Solomon was referring to their COLOR [tan]
 - As we were previously told that the Shulamite was DARK skinned - **Song of Songs 1:6**
 - He will have more to say about these later!
- Her neck... vs. 4
 - Your neck is like an ivory tower!
 - SIXTH - the NECK of the SHULAMITE was tall - like [בָּ] a TOWER [מִגְדָּל]
 - He described it on their wedding night as being covered with SHIELDS [necklace]
 - But here she is wearing NOTHING - it is smooth like IVORY!
 - **I Peter 3:3** - "Do not let your adornment be outward arranging the hair - wearing gold - or putting on *fine* apparel!"
 - Do not [imperative] let your ADORNMENT be OUTWARD...
 - ADORNMENT [κόσμος] – where we get the word cosmetics!
 - Not that there is a problem with makeup – women can make themselves look nice...
 - But if ALL that we focus on is the OUTWARD appearance...
 - Then there is a PROBLEM – because the OUTWARD things do not strengthen a MARRIAGE!
- Her eyes... vs. 4
 - Your eyes like the pools in Heshbon by the gate of Bath Rabbim!
 - SEVENTH - when SOLOMON looked into her eyes...
 - They were like DEEP pools of water - reflecting her DEEP thoughts [הַשְּׁבוֹן]
 - They were the DOOR that showed MANY [רַבִּים] daughters [בָּת]
 - In other words when he looked into her EYES - he did NOT just see his WIFE...
 - He saw a MOTHER - who could love and nurture MANY children!
 - If you ever want to make someone uncomfortable - STARE into their eyes...
 - It almost seems like an intrusion - like they are trying to READ your mind...
 - That is because our EYES are the MOST expressive part of our face...
 - Cover them up [sunglasses] and it is HARD to tell what someone is THINKING or FEELING!
 - That is also why if we want to tell someone something IMPORTANT...
 - If we want them to KNOW what we are saying is the TRUTH - look at them in the EYE...

- Take the time to look at your spouse - in the EYE - and tell them you LOVE them!
- Her nose... vs. 4
 - Your nose is like the tower of Lebanon which looks toward Damascus!
 - EIGHTH - the NOSE [נָס] of the SHULAMITE...
 - NOSE [נָס] - the word is most often translated as ANGER [flaring nose]
 - Was TALL - like the TOWER [מִגְדָּל] of LEBANON [white]
 - So apparently the SHULAMITE had both a TALL [not dapat] and WHITE nose!
 - The reason why FILIPINOS want a TALL nose - is because they do NOT have them...
 - They reason they want to be WHITE - is because they are NOT...
 - So they spend LOTS of money to make their nose TALL and skin WHITE...
 - But who made the definition of BEAUTY is the OPPOSITE of what we are!
 - Rather than buying into the LIE - and trying to be something we are NOT...
 - Wisdom is to recognize God made us - therefore we are BEAUTIFUL just as we are...
 - And the person God has for us - will see and embrace that BEAUTY!
- Her head... vs. 5
 - Your head crowns you like Mount Carmel!
 - NINETH - her HEAD was like [כּ] Mount Carmel [כַּרְמֶל]
 - This could simply be a reference to her HEIGHT - she was taller than others...
 - Mount Carmel is one of the HIGHER mountains on the coast of Israel [546 meters]!
- Her hair... vs. 5
 - And the hair of your head is like purple. A king is held captive by your tresses!
 - TENTH - finally SOLOMON describes the HAIR of the SHULAMITE...
 - It was PURPLE - likely not the actual color [doubtful she dyed her hair]
 - More likely he is referring to the fact it was REGAL [purple was a royal color]
 - And he - the KING [מֶלֶךְ] - was CAPTIVATED [אָסַר] by the LINES [רֶהַט] of it!
 - Personally I can attest to loving the long hair of Jen...
 - Part of the reason is probably just jealousy - I cannot grow ANY hair anymore!
 - But what I like the most is that SOLOMON did not START with the head - he ended there...
 - Because what makes a marriage GREAT - is NOT just the physical [wedding night]
 - It is when we take the time to have a RELATIONSHIP with our spouse...
 - Which will NOT happen by accident - it is something we need to INVEST in...
 - We choose to spend time with them - get to know them - make them our BEST friend!
- o 3rd - His desire... vs. 6-9
 - Conclusion... vs. 6
 - How fair and how pleasant you are O love - with your delights!
 - Having giving his most DETAILED description of his WIFE...
 - SOLOMON stood back and gave his CONCLUSION...
 - HOW [כֵּן] beautiful - and HOW [כֵּן] sweet was his LOVE [אֶהֱבָה]
 - He was DELIGHTED to spend time with her!
 - SOLOMON went from SEVEN ways of describing her on the wedding night...
 - To only THREE ways when they had a FIGHT...
 - To now seeing TEN ways in which she was GORGEOUS [physically] and SWEET [personally]
 - Not because she had CHANGED - but because he had [his perspective]!
 - Taking hold... vs. 7-8
 - This stature of yours is like a palm tree - and your breasts like its clusters.
 - I said: I will go up to the palm tree - I will take hold of its branches.
 - Let now your breasts be like clusters of the vine!
 - The SHULAMITE was as TALL as a DATE palm...

- And her BREASTS were like clusters of FRUIT that hung from the tree...
- So SOLOMON said [perfect] - I will go up to the DATE palm...
- Because he REALLY [cohortative] wanted [jussive] to grab ahold of the FRUIT...
- The suggestion is the DANCE was over - he was excited to hold his BRIDE!
- When we spend time in our SPOUSE - invest in them - we will want to with them...
- We will be attracted to them - and find them irresistible [physically]
- It will NOT be a burden to have a conversation with them [emotionally]
- We will want to strengthen each other in our walks with Jesus [spiritually]

▪ Kisses... vs. 8-9

- The fragrance of your breath like apples - and the roof of your mouth like the best wine!
- And [וְ] - as SOLOMON got close to the SHULAMITE...
- The scent of her NOSE [חַסְרֵי] was like APPLES...
- And as he kissed her mouth - it was like [כֵּן] the BEST [טוֹב] wine!
- **Proverbs 5:18-19** - "Let your fountain be blessed - and rejoice with the wife of your youth. As a loving deer and a graceful doe - let her breasts satisfy you at all times. And always be enraptured with her love!"
- The BEST [blessed] sex [fountain] - will always be in marriage...
- Therefore - we MUST [imperative] choose to be HAPPY [rejoice] in our SPOUSE [wife]
- A husband should [jussive] only quench his THIRST [satisfy] with his wife [breasts]
- He should ALWAYS [כָּל] be FULFILLED [שָׂגָה] by his love for her!
- We live with our SPOUSE – meaning we see the GOOD and the BAD...
- There are going to be days when we FIGHT – get our feelings HURT...
- The danger comes when we believe the LIE...
- The secretary at work – the trainer at the gym – the friend who seems to always care...
- People – who are NOT our spouse – who we spend TIME with...
- We start to think maybe they could make us HAPPIER!
- God has created marriage to last for a LIFETIME...
- That does NOT mean it will always be EASY - but it is always the BEST!

• 2ND - ENJOYING LOVE... vs. 9-13

o 1st - Her humility...vs. 9-10

▪ Much easier... vs. 9

- The Shulamite: The wine goes down smoothly for my beloved.
- Moving gently the lips of sleepers!
- At this point the SHULAMITE speaks for the FIRST time...
- This would appear to be after they had re-consummated their marriage [post sex]
- As they lie together - speaking quietly to each other before falling asleep...
- She noted how much EASIER [smooth] this was compared to their FIGHT...
- It was BETTER to have a RESTORED relationship rather than a BROKEN one!

▪ I am my beloveds... vs. 10

- I am my beloveds - and his desire is toward me!
- She repeats again the KEY phrase that began the HEALING - **Song of Songs 6:3**
- I [אֲנִי] am my BELOVEDS [לְדוּדֵי] - she HUMBLed herself and put him FIRST...
- And the RESULT of her HUMILITY - was he now DESIRED [תְּשׁוּקָה] her!
- Ladies - if you feel like you husband is ignoring you...
- The solution is NOT to be PRETTIER - put on more MAKEUP - a SEXIER outfit...
- It is to be HUMBLE - chose to obey the command God gave you [submit]
- Because that is what is what will make you irresistible to him!

o 2nd - Her love... vs. 11-12

- Vacation... vs. 11-12
 - Come my beloved. Let us go forth to the field. Let us lodge in the villages.
 - Let us get up early to the vineyards. Let us see if the vine has budded.
 - Whether the grape blossoms are open and the pomegranates are in bloom!
 - Do NOT think that it was only SOLOMON who was enjoying the restoration...
 - The SHULAMITE turned to her husband and commanded [imperative]
 - COME - lets go into the field - and find [cohortative] a house in the village...
 - She wanted to go and find a BED and Breakfast - get away with SOLOMON...
 - And she wanted to do it NOW - get up early [hiphil] - and go out to the VINEYARDS...
 - She really [cohortative] wanted to see if the grapes and pomegranates were blooming!
 - The church we came from in Temecula is located in Wine Country...
 - It is famous for its Bed and Breakfasts - because the scenery is BEAUTIFUL...
 - It makes for a peaceful place for couples to get away to!
- Freely given... vs. 12
 - There I will give you my love!
 - Their VACATION was not about the LOCATION - or the pretty flowers...
 - What the SHULAMITE wanted was to spend time ALONE with SOLOMON...
 - Away from the distractions of his POSITION [the king]
 - Just the TWO of them - and there she would give [imperfect] him her LOVES [plural]!
 - **I Corinthians 7:3-5** - "Let the husband render to his wife the affection due her - and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body - but the husband does. And likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body - but the wife does. Do not deprive one another... so that Satan does not tempt you because of your lack of self-control!"
 - It has been said that marriage is a 50/50 relationship...
 - But that is NOT true - when we get married - we give up our rights...
 - We NO longer live for ourselves - we are both to live 100 percent for the other person!
 - Unfortunately - husbands and wives can NEGLECT each other...
 - A Husband can IGNORE his wife when he is frustrated with her...
 - A wife can REFUSE intimacy as a way to get back at her husband...
 - And satan would love to take advantage of our little SPATS...
 - He knows that marriage is the cornerstone of our understanding of God - **Ephesians 5:32**
 - Therefore do NOT give satan the opportunity - be selfless in marriage!
 - **II Corinthians 2:11** - "Lest Satan should take advantage... we are not ignorant of his devices."
- o 3rd - Result of love... 13
 - Mandrakes...
 - The mandrakes give off a fragrance and at our gates are pleasant fruits!
 - The SHULAMITE then gave a HINT at what she wanted...
 - MANDRAKES [מַדְרָקָה] - a fruit that is thought to be an aphrodisiac...
 - She liked the idea of its SMELL coming through their door...
 - Because it would bring EXCELLENT things - talking about having CHILDREN!
 - The first time MANDRAKES are mentioned in the Bible is with Jacob - **Genesis 30:14**
 - Rueben - the son of Leah - had found some in the field...
 - Rachel - who had NO children - demanded they be given to her...
 - The reason she wanted them is she believed it would help her get PREGNANT...
 - And the Lord heard her prayer - and she gave birth to Joseph - **Genesis 30:22**
 - Old and new...
 - All manner - new and old - which I have laid up for you my beloved!

- If SOLOMON was willing to take the SHULAMITE away - give her kids...
- She had ALL [כָּל] kind of things planned for them - some NEW - some OLD!
- I love that the story of the Song of Songs - does NOT present a PERFECT marriage...
- It shows us VERY flawed people - who made MISTAKES...
- They reacted in the FLESH - they had FIGHTS...
- But in the end they chose to be HUMBLE - and OBEY the command of God...
- And the results was - they saw the RESTORATION of their marriage...
- Presumably one that was blessed with MANY children!