

SONG OF SONGS 5

- 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 The Wedding night...
 - With the wedding ceremony over - it was time for the wedding NIGHT...
 - God BLESSED their MARRIAGE - commanding them to DRINK [imperative] deeply...
 - CONDONING their actions - even calling them [plural] BELOVED [דָּוִדִים]
 - Because they had waited and went about their marriage - the way He intended!
 - Sex is meant to be enjoyed - in MARRIAGE - it is a GIFT of God...
 - And when it is done His way - at the RIGHT time - He blesses it...
 - There is NO guilt - there is NO separation from Him [He calls us friends]
 - Instead it fulfills all THREE aspects that He intended for it...
 - It is FUN - it GLUES the couple together - and results in KIDS [fruitful]
- 1ST - MARRIAGE PROBLEMS... vs. 2-3
 - o 1st - The Fight... vs. 2
 - Not perfect...
 - The world paints a very deceptive picture of MARRIAGE...
 - It either tries to sell us the DISNEY wedding [HAPPILY ever after]
 - Or it tries to convince us NOT to get married - because it will NEVER last...
 - But both of these views are WRONG - and completely miss the point of MARRIAGE...
 - These views are inspired by the god of this world - who is a LIAR!
 - **John 8:44** - "[The devil] has always hated the truth because there is no truth in him... he is a liar and the father of lies." [NLT]
 - While marriage is PERFECT - it was given by God before there was SIN - **Genesis 2:18**
 - The people who get MARRIED are FAR from perfect...
 - They are two SINNERS - who will FREQUENTLY make mistakes...
 - Therefore there is NO such thing as HAPPILY ever after - there are going to be BAD days...
 - But that does NOT mean that MARRIAGE is BAD - far from it...
 - It means that MARRIAGE is NOT about making us HAPPY...
 - It is about learning to DENY ourselves - and live a SACRIFICIAL life...
 - Which is EXACTLY what God has called us to do as His DISCIPLES!
 - **Luke 9:23** - "If anyone desires to come after Me - let him deny himself and take up his cross daily - and follow Me."
 - Bad sleep...
 - I sleep but my heart is awake!
 - As we come to the FIRST chapter that deals with MARRIAGE [third section]
 - The SHULAMITE [שׁוּלָמִית] was SLEEPING [שָׁנָה] at night...

- BUT [וְ] - although she was ASLEEP - her HEART [לֵב] was AWAKE [עוֹר]
 - Her SLEEP was NOT good - because there was a PROBLEM...
 - Verse ONE was the wedding night - but the HONEYMOON was over!
 - I have to admit - when Jen and I have an argument...
 - I have NO problem going right to sleep - it does NOT keep me up...
 - I cannot say the same for Jen - she will lay sleepless the whole night...
 - I wake up in the morning - and there she is staring at me [not good]!
 - **Ephesians 4:26** – “Do not let the sun go down on your anger.”
 - Ignoring a problem – does NOT solve the problem - will only makes it bigger...
 - And if we try and IGNORE it - we give an opportunity to satan...
 - He would love to sow DIVISION in our MARRIAGES...
 - Husbands - do NOT give him the opportunity - talk to your WIVES!
- o 2nd - On the outside... vs. 2
- Demanding...
 - It is the voice of my beloved. He knocks saying: Open for me!
 - She heard the voice of SOLOMON - her BELOVED [דָּוִד]
 - He was OUTSIDE of her room - perhaps because of a FIGHT...
 - Maybe he was out too late with FRIENDS - rather than spending time with his WIFE...
 - Or perhaps he got busy at WORK - leaving his wife home alone...
 - Now he was POUNDING [דָּפַק] on the door - demanding[imperative] to be let back in!
 - Men are taught from youth that their ONE purpose is to PROVIDE...
 - But that is NOT true – God is the one who provides for our family – **Luke 12:31**
 - The one thing wives NEED - is the LOVE of Jesus from their HUSBANDS...
 - When we do NOT daily show our wives His LOVE – they begin to feel insecure...
 - And then they begin to challenge us - because they are insecure in our LOVE!
 - Sweet words...
 - My sister - my love. My dove - my perfect one!
 - When the door would NOT open - Solomon changed his tactic...
 - He began to use SWEET words to try and deescalate the FIGHT...
 - Calling his wife his SISTER [אָחֻזִּית] - his FRIEND [רֵעִיָּה] - his DOVE [pet name]
 - All names that he had given to her on their WEDDING night - **Song of Songs 4**
 - Trying to remind her of BETTER days - when there were NO problems...
 - He even admitted that she was PERFECT [תָּמָּה] - it was his FAULT!
 - **Proverbs 15:1** - “A soft answer turns away wrath.”
 - There are TWO commands given in MARRIAGE...
 - WIVES are commanded to SUBMIT [ὑποτάσσω] to their HUSBANDS - **Ephesians 5:22**
 - HUSBANDS are commanded to LOVE [ἀγαπάω] their WIVES - **Ephesians 5:25**
 - We tend to DEMAND the other person do their PART...
 - And overlook the COMMAND [imperative] that God has given to us!
 - It is easy to see the FAULT in others [she is NOT submitting - he is NOT loving]
 - But the problem is we CANNOT change them - we can ONLY choose for ourselves...
 - When [not if] we have a FIGHT - the right answer is to be HUMBLE...
 - Admit we were WRONG - and chose to OBEY what God had called us to do!
- o 3rd - Shut door... vs. 2-3
- Show pity... vs. 2
 - For my head is covered with dew. My locks with the drops of the night!
 - When the SWEET words did not work [door was still closed] - Solomon asked for PITY...
 - His head was WET because of being outside at NIGHT...

- He was pleading for her to have COMPASSION and let him in!

▪ Excuses... vs. 3

- I have taken off my robe. How can I put it on again?
- I have washed my feet. How can I defile them?
- The response from the SHULAMITE was almost laughable...
- She had already gotten undressed [no robe] - HOW could she get dressed again...
- She had already washed her feet - HOW could she let them get dirty...
- These were obviously NOT good reasons to keep SOLOMON outside - they were EXCUSES...
- She was HURT - and did NOT want to let him back inside!
- It is HARD to let go of HURTS when our spouse has done something to upset us...
- The tendency is to want to make sure they PAY for their CRIME...
- It may even be that we are AFRAID to open back up and trust them...
- Because they have HURT us once - who is to say they will NOT do it AGAIN...
- But we need to remember we are NOT trusting in our spouse - we are TRUSTING in Jesus...
- And through His GRACE - we can FORGIVE any mistake!
- I Corinthians 13:5 - "[Love] keeps no record of being wronged." [NLT]

● 2ND - HARD LESSONS... vs. 4-9

o 1st - Walking away... vs. 4-6

▪ Locked door... vs. 4

- My beloved put his hand by the latch of the door - and my heart yearned for him!
- SOLOMON [דוד] put [perfect] his hand on the LOCK of the door...
- He tried to get to his BRIDE - but she would NOT let him in...
- But there was a BATTLE in her heart - she was MAD at him - but also MISSED him...
- Her HEART [מִצֵּה] longed to be back with him...
- So why NOT open the door - what kept her from letting him in - PRIDE!
- The number one problem in MARRIAGES - is our PRIDE...
- We LOVE our spouse - we WANT to be with them...
- But we cannot get past our PRIDE - it is so hard to say - I am SORRY!

▪ Sweet scent... vs. 5

- I arose to open for my beloved and my hands dripped with myrrh.
- My fingers with liquid myrrh on the handles of the lock!
- When she finally could NOT take it any longer - and went to OPEN the door...
- As she opened the BOLT - she found it covered in MYRRH [מֶרְח]
- It was customary in ancient times to leave a SCENT as a kind of LOVE note...
- Solomon did not react to her stubborn attitude - instead he responded in kindness!
- The modern equivalent would be FLOWERS or CHOCOLATES...
- A peace offering given to the other person as a way to say SORRY!
- If our SPOUSE is closed up - and will NOT listen or let us in...
- There are TWO options - we can treat them the same way [tit for tat]
- But that will just make things worse - it will NOT bring restoration...
- The better answer is to react to them with GRACE and LOVE...
- Give them a GIFT - a kind NOTE - and gesture tried to try and RESTORE the relationship!

▪ No answer... vs. 6

- I opened for my beloved but my beloved had turned away and was gone.
- My heart leaped up when he spoke. I sought him but I could not find him.
- I called him but he gave me no answer!
- When the SHULAMITE finally opened the door for SOLOMON [דוד]
- It was too LATE - he had already left...

- Her SOUL [נַפְשָׁהּ] had LEAPT when she heard him speak...
- But when she went to LOOK for [piel] him - he was nowhere [לֹא] to be found...
- She called out to him - but he no [לֹא] longer answered!
- Here is where our story takes on a DEEPER spiritual meaning...
- Jesus comes KNOCKING on our door - and He wants to come in - **Revelation 3:20**
- But He does NOT knock forever - today is the day to choose - **II Corinthians 6:2**
- There will be a LOT of people whose SOULS [נַפְשָׁהּ] were stirred by hearing His WORD...
- But by the time they OPEN up the door - it is too LATE...
- We do NOT want to be those who MISS out on the window to be SAVED!
- **Matthew 7:22** - "Many will say to Me in that day: Lord - Lord!"
- o 2nd - Waking up... vs. 7-9
 - Consequences... vs. 7
 - The watchmen who went about the city found me. They struck me - they wounded me.
 - The keepers of the walls took my veil away from me!
 - The SHULAMITE went out into the CITY looking for SOLOMON...
 - But instead of finding her HUSBAND - the POLICE [guards] found her...
 - What happened next is mired in a bit of controversy...
 - Because we are told the police BEAT [hiphil] her - and BRUISED her...
 - Then took away her VEIL - putting her to public shame...
 - It seems unlikely that the POLICE would beat and shame the QUEEN [wife of Solomon]
 - Some suggest that this was instead a DREAM [the chapter opens with her sleeping]
 - And that the POLICE are her conscience punishing her for her STUBBORNNESS...
 - Either way - if it was REAL or a DREAM - it had an immediate impact!
 - Repentant... vs. 8
 - I charge you O daughters of Jerusalem:
 - If you find my beloved that you tell him I am lovesick!
 - The SHULAMITE turned to the DAUGHTERS of Jerusalem and gave them a command [שָׁבַע]
 - If they found SOLOMON [דָּוִד] - they were to tell [hiphil] him...
 - She was SORRY [תָּלַהּ] - and she LOVED [אָהָבָהּ] him!
 - Note that NOTHING changed in the circumstances...
 - Whatever caused the FIGHT in the first place - was still unresolved...
 - What CHANGED was the heart of the SHULAMITE - she was humbled...
 - Because the KEY to restoring a broken marriage - is allowing God to CHANGE us!
 - Reflection... vs. 9
 - The Daughters of Jerusalem:
 - What is your beloved more than another beloved O fairest among women?
 - What is your beloved more than another beloved that you so charge us?
 - The command raised a question among the DAUGHTERS of Jerusalem...
 - WHAT [מָה] was her BELOVED [דָּוִד] - that made him MORE than others [2x for emphasis]
 - After all the SHULAMITE was beautiful - literally the fairest [יָפָה] of all women [בְּנוֹשִׁים]
 - She could have ANY man - why did she want SOLOMON!
 - Too often we FOCUS on ALL the WRONG things...
 - We LOOK at the FLAWS and FAILURES of our spouse...
 - It does NOT take much to find them - we are all SINNERS - **Romans 3:23**
 - But rather than looking at the PROBLEM - we should be asking what makes them SPECIAL...
 - Why did we say YES on the wedding day - why did we CHOSE to spend our lives together...
 - When we change our FOCUS - when we WAKE up to what really matters...
 - We will see the BLESSING of the person God has given us to walk through life with!

● **3RD CHANGE OF HEART... vs. 10-16**

o **1st - Personality... vs. 10**

- The Shulamite: My beloved is white and ruddy. Chief among ten thousand!
- With the RIGHT perspective - the SHULAMITE answered the question...
- What made SOLOMON her BELOVED [יָדָה] - she gave SIX reasons...
- FIRST - SOLOMON was SUNNY [שָׁמֵחַ] - likely a reference to his pleasant personality...
- BUT [וְ] - he was also MANLY [אֲדָמִי] - from the root word for MAN [אָדָם]
- That combination of being both FUN and yet MASCULINE made him the BEST...
- He was the FLAG [דָגל] - or standard - that you would hold over TEN thousand men!
- There are a LOT of people in this world - BILLIONS...
- We need to remember that out of them ALL - God gave us ONE...
- Therefore we should see our SPOUSE as the BEST [standard]!

o **2nd - Appearance... vs. 11**

- His head is like the finest gold. His locks are wavy and black as a raven!
- SOLOMON had a good head - more valuable than fine GOLD...
- It was covered with thick locks of BLACK hair [dark as a raven]
- This apparently was a trait of the sons of DAVID...
- Absalom also had very long and thick hair - **II Samuel 14:26**
- For the record - having long DARK hair is not what makes someone handsome...
- Solomon would go on to say that GREY hair is the crown of the wise - **Proverbs 16:31**
- And making fun of those who have NO hair can have consequences - **II Kings 2:23-24**
- Joking aside - there is truth that BEAUTY is in the eye of the beholder...
- The world tries to sell us on the LIE that it is found in certain TRAITS [thin - tall - white]
- But when someone has your heart - they become the most BEAUTIFUL person!

o **3rd - Wisdom... vs. 12**

- His eyes are like doves by the rivers of waters. Washed with milk and fitly set!
- They EYES of SOLOMON were WHITE [washed in milk] - no jaundice or hepatitis...
- And he was NOT cross eyed - they were set in the right place...
- But most importantly - when she looked into his EYES...
- They were WIDE [like a pigeon] and DEEP [like a river] - likely speaking of his WISDOM!
- **Matthew 6:22** - "The lamp of the body is the eye."

o **4th - Fragrance... vs. 13**

- His cheeks are like a bed of spices banks of scented herbs.
- His lips are lilies dripping liquid myrrh!
- She went on to describe how SOLOMON smelled...
- His cheeks were like a GARDEN of sweet spices - likely a reference to his well kept BEARD...
- He was TALL [גָּדֹל] so she reach up smell his sweet fragrance...
- And when she did - his LIPS were as soft as LILIES - and dripped with MYRRH!
- I used to have a BEARD - but it was a bit WILD - I did NOT trim it for over a year...
- That may be why Jen will NO longer let me have a GARDEN on my face [clean shaven]

o **5th - Strength... vs. 14-15**

- His hands are rods of gold set with beryl. His body is carved ivory inlaid with sapphires.
- His legs are pillars of marble set on bases of fine gold.
- His countenance is like Lebanon excellent as the cedars!
- The HANDS of SOLOMON were STRONG - like golden HINGES of a door...
- His BODY was like CARVED ivory - he was a FIT man...
- His LEGS like pillars of MARBLE - set on bases of GOLD [his feet]

- He was very TALL - like a CEDAR tree from Lebanon!
- o 6th - Friendship... vs. 16
 - His mouth is most sweet. Yes he is altogether lovely.
 - This is my beloved and this is my friend - O daughters of Jerusalem!
 - But more than his PERSONALITY - or his APPEARANCE...
 - Even better than his WISDOM - FRAGRANCE - or STRENGTH...
 - The very best part of Solomon was his WORDS...
 - What came out of his mouth was always SWEET and PLEASANT...
 - So in answer to the question - that is what made him BELOVED [יָדוּד]
 - That is what made SOLOMON her best FRIEND [רֵעַ]!
 - God has given us the GIFT of marriage - **Proverbs 18:22**
 - The MISTAKE that we can make is thinking that it will be EASY...
 - MARRIAGE is HARD - and there are going to be CHALLENGES...
 - The KEY is to be HUMBLE - and come to Jesus for His GRACE...
 - So that we can overlook the FLAWS - and instead see what is GOOD...
 - We can see the FRIEND God has given - our BELOVED!