

SONG OF SONGS: THE JOURNEY OF MATURE LOVE

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I. INTRODUCTION: THE GREAT SONG

- A. The Holy Spirit is awakening great interest in the Song of Songs book before the Lord's return, and many in the world are proclaiming, writing, and praying the truths and principles it contains. **Our prayer is that all the Lord's people will respond to the revelation of this book by declaring the same words to the Lord in an intimate dialogue.**
- B. As we understand symbolic language in the context of God's Word we receive edification. **The goal of these teachings is that we all love God as He loves us with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.**
- C. Song of Songs emphasizes the emotional side of Jesus' work. Why did God create us and why did He go to the cross for us? **Our hearts have a capacity to respond to this love; in fact, the reason we have deep and diverse emotions is because God has them and placed them on us so there are aspects in our hearts that are most strongly impacted by God's holy and poetic affection.**

II. FOUR APPROACHES TO SONG OF SOLOMON

- A. We find these four peculiarities in many parts of Scripture. but Song of Solomon has a concentrated focus on them:
 - 1. **The revelation of Jesus' passionate affection and delight for His people.**
 - 2. **The revelation of the beauty of Jesus, especially as the Bridegroom-King.**
 - 3. **The revelation of the beauty of every believer in Jesus, even in our weakness.** If you want to know how you look before the Lord, study Song of Solomon.
 - 4. The principles to grow in love and mature communion with Jesus.
- B. **The Church needs to be equipped with this revelation because we have all faced deep emotional wounds but the love of Jesus revealed in this book counteracts emotional pain and heals the heart.** Jesus wants to fascinate us with His beauty and wants to heal our hearts with the beauty of His love. **The Song of Songs is one of the holy sparkle of the heart of God and shows the longing of Jesus for His people.**

III. TURNING SONG OF SOLOMON INTO A DIALOGUE OF AFFECTIONATE PRAYER WITH JESUS

- A. **One of the purposes of the Holy Spirit is to fill ourselves with the Father's love for Jesus,** precisely for this reason we must deepen into an affectionate meditation on this book with a hungry and honest heart before God..

Jn. 17:26 "And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

- B. **If we are willing to receive the benefit that the Song of Songs book brings us, we must turn it into a continuous and affectionate dialogue of prayer with Jesus. It is not enough just to study Song of Songs we must turn it into a dialogue of prayer with the Trinity. • **The language of Song of Songs must enter our prayer life and our thoughts before it can transform how we feel before God.****
- C. We do not approach Song of Solomon just to receive biblical information. *No one would go to a famous restaurant simply to study the menu. The menu is there to help us choose a good plate of food and savor it in all its delicacy.* It is not enough to have an idea of what this book is about; we must allow the realities it expresses to fill our hearts.
- D. As we receive these teachings, we invite you to pray to God for the specific phrases in this book. We use Song of Songs as a springboard to dive into the depths of God's love.

IV. FINDING JESUS BY READING-PRAYING SONG OF SOLOMON

- A. There are two ways of reading-praying the Scriptures that exhort us to **believe** the word of God:
 - 1. First, ***we thank God*** for the truth described in the passage we are reading and turn this truth into a dialogue by taking time to say to our Lord, ***"Thank you, Jesus,"*** in a specific way....
 - a) For example, when we read in **Songs 4:9 "you captivated my heart, sister, my wife"**, we respond by thanking God for this truth, praying: ***"Thank you Jesus, because I captivated your heart."***
 - b) For example, when Jesus says to the Bride in **Songs 4:10 "Your love is more pleasant than wine"**, we respond praying, ***"I thank you, Jesus, because you appreciate and value my love for You so much."***
 - 2. Second, ***we ask for an understanding*** of the truth as we seek to further believe what we are understanding. We ask God to unleash a revelation that will let us know and feel the power of these specific truths (**Eph. 3:18-19**)..
 - a) For example, when we read, ***"You captivated my heart, my wife,"*** we ask Jesus for a revelation of His heart by praying, ***"Jesus, show me more how I have captivated Your heart."***
 - b) For example, when we read that Jesus says to the Bride, ***"Your love is more pleasant than wine"***, we respond asking for understanding and praying: ***"Jesus show me more what this delight that you find in my love means"***.
- B. There are two ways of praying-reading the Scriptures that exhort us to **obey** the word of God.

1. First, **we commit ourselves to obey** Jesus in the specific way described in the passage. We turn a particular truth into a simple dialogue with God that includes declaring our intention (commitment) to obey Him according to the exhortation of the passage.
 - a) For example, when Jesus exhorts the Bride to rise in obedience leaving her comfort zone to follow Him (an obedience that costs):

Cant. 2:10 *"My beloved spoke, and said to me: "Rise up, my love, my fair one, And come away."*
 - b) We respond by committing ourselves to obey this truth by praying, *"Jesus, I will rise from my comfort zone to meet you in the mountains of obedience even if it costs me."*
 - c) For example, Jesus honors the Bride's heart by being like a **closed garden** whose waters have not been polluted (a King's garden was closed or sealed, in contrast to a public garden. **This refers to having a clean heart that is like a closed garden or completely reserved for Jesus**). We respond, committing ourselves to obey this truth, praying: *"Jesus, my heart is closed to all sin. I am completely yours."*
2. Second, **we ask for the power of God to obey** the specific truth in one passage. We ask the Holy Spirit for help to obey the exhortations in a passage.
 - a) For example, when the Lord exhorts the Bride to arise to follow Him into the mountains, we ask the Holy Spirit to help us obey:

Songs. 4:8 *"Come with me from Lebanon, my spouse,... Look from the top of Amana, From the top of Senir and Hermon."*
 - b) We can pray: *"Jesus, strengthen me to obey you and lift me out of my comfort zone and meet you in obedience even though it is difficult for me."*
 - c) For example, when the Lord honors the Bride's heart as being like a **closed garden**, we respond by asking God for help to obey this truth by praying, *"Jesus, strengthen me to live with a sealed heart that resists all sin for you."*

V. THE NEED TO WRITE

- A. We must take time to write down our thoughts, prayers, and meditations as we "read-pray" the Song of Solomon book. **This will help us capture the truths that the Lord places in our hearts.** The simple exercise of writing down our ideas will help us take this magnificent Song and turn it into a glorious dialogue of prayer between our hearts and Jesus.
- B. • **We have to be patient, speak slowly, and then write down our thoughts.** We will be amazed at how doing this, the Holy Spirit will give us more revelation, strengthen our obedience and soften our hearts.

VI. THE THREE FACETS OF JESUS' INHERITANCE

- A. The reason we should take seriously the invitation of the Holy Spirit to go deeper in prayer in this book is because **not only do we have an inheritance in God but He also has it in us:**

Eph. 1:18 *"I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are His rich and glorious inheritance."*

- B. King David described the three facets of God's inheritance in **Psalm 2** and it is one of the most excellent descriptions of the mature Bride which describes three aspects of our redemption.:

Sal. 2:8-12 *[The Father says to Jesus] Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance.. ¹⁰ Now therefore, be wise, O kings... ¹¹ Serve the Lord with fear, And rejoice with trembling. ¹² Kiss the Son..."*

1. **Trembling:** we tremble in the fear of God when we see the eternal majesty of Jesus (**Revelation** shows this aspect).
2. **Rejoice:** we rejoice in seeing who we are in Christ and the benefits of the cross (**Romans** show us this aspect).
3. **Honor:** "Kiss the Son", or we love Him with all our hearts, expressing this love with holy affection. **By doing this, we touch the emotional and passionate side of our redemption** (This aspect is Song of Solomon' focus).

VII. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. **Have you tried to Read the Bible praying that the truths touch your heart? Honestly explain what your experience has been like.**
2. **How does it make you feel that God appreciates your love so much?**
3. **How do you think the passionate love of God can heal your wounds? Explain whether or not you have lived the healing that Jesus' love brings.**