

SONG OF SONGS: LET THE WINDS BLOW

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Songs. 4:16

“Awake, O north wind, and come, O south wind! Blow upon my garden, let its spices flow. Let my beloved come to his garden, and eat its choicest fruits.”

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. As we have seen in the Book of Songs, after the loved one goes through her process of discipline and growth, she changes her paradigm, from being someone primarily centered on herself now she understands that she is the inheritance of the Lord (**Ex. 34:9**), then her attitude and her prayer change dramatically. This happens to us when we mature, we no longer think only in terms of ourselves, our fun, pleasure and convenience but in God's plan and his perfect purpose.

II. THE CRY OF THE MAIDEN

- A. When the beloved cries out in this way, she shows that she has enough confidence in God to offer this prayer that includes two aspects: **She prays for the winds of adversity from the North and for the winds of blessing from the South.** The maiden knows that they both play a strategic role in making her a fragrant garden for God's delight..

Job. 2:10 *“...Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?...”* (NIV)

- B. **“Awake, O north wind”:** This speaks of the bitter cold wind of trials and difficulties. This prayer is answered in **Song. 5:3-7** as she walks through the ultimate trial.

Rom. 5:3-5a ***“We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. 4 And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. 5 And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us...”***

- C. **“Awake, O south wind!”:** her second prayer is that Jesus will send refreshing winds of blessing to mature her. Only God has the wisdom to give us the best combination of the North and south winds that are necessary for each stage of our life.

Pr. 30:8-9 ***“... give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, 9 lest I be full and deny you and say, “Who is the Lord?” or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.”***

- D. **“Blow upon my garden:** she wants the garden of her heart and her ministry to be deeply affected. The deep, unnoticed corners of our pride, ambition and anger, etc., come to light when we work under difficult circumstances.

1 Pet. 1:7 "so that the tested genuineness of your faith...may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ."

- E. **"let its spices flow"**: She cries out that after the trials (winds) her heart will bear fruit pleasing to God, she longs for the fruit of the Holy Spirit in her life in the midst of all circumstances.

Gal. 5:22-23a "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control..."

- F. **"Let my beloved come to his garden"**: it is the transition through which she passes from being her own garden to being the Lord's garden. She longs to be completely His; she longs for an anointing of consecration. She sees her life and her ministry as the Lord's garden rather than her own. **Jesus has an inheritance in the church.** This is the turning point in the Song. Through the first four chapters the inheritance belonged to the young woman, **but from now on it will belong to Him.**

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."

1 Cor. 6:19 "Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself"

- G. **"and eat its choicest fruits."**: in other words, Jesus can enjoy what the Holy Spirit has produced in her. We not only eat of the Lord but He can also eat of the fruit that His Holy Spirit produces in us when we have fellowship with Him.

Ap. 3:20b "[Jesus says] ...I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me."

III. JESUS REJOICES IN HIS INHERITANCE

Song.5:1 "I came to my garden, my sister, my bride, I gathered my myrrh with my spice, I ate my honeycomb with my honey, I drank my wine with my milk. Eat, friends, drink, and be drunk with love!"

- A. The Bride knows that she is owned by Jesus. He affirms her nine times **"My"** describing that her life and her ministry are His possession. **My garden, my sister, my wife, my myrrh, my honey, my honeycomb, my wine and my milk.**

Psal. 100:3 "Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture."

- B. **"I came to my garden"**: Jesus answers the maiden's request in **Song. 4:16** where she asked Him to come in and eat. Jesus comes to take full possession of her life as His inheritance in two ways: as sister and wife.

2 Cor. 11:2 "For I am jealous for you with the jealousy of God himself. I promised you as a pure bride to one husband—Christ."

- C. ***"I gathered my myrrh with my spice"***: Jesus collects what the Holy Spirit has worked in the Church. When He says: ***"My myrrh"*** He speaks of the time when we follow Jesus embracing the cross in the midst of difficulties. When He says ***"My spice"*** He is talking about what grace produces in the life of His beloved.

Phil. 1:11 "May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God."

- D. ***"I ate my honeycomb with my honey"***: Jesus is feasting on the fruit of a mature Church. Jesus rejoices in what the Spirit has released in the Church. Honey speaks of delightful food that Jesus will enjoy and that comes from the bride's life.
- E. ***"I drank my wine with my milk"***: Jesus celebrates the love that the Bride has for Him. The wine is to celebrate and the milk is to strengthen. Jesus celebrates and delights in her love.

Rom. 7:4 "Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God."

- F. ***"Eat, friends, drink, and be drunk with love!"***: Jesus wants His friends (His church) **to rejoice in the fruit of mature believers**. These friends are also others who are close to His heart.

Col. 1:10 "Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better."

- G. Paul spoke of death working in him so that God's life would flow to others. He faced difficulties for God's fragrances to bless God and others.

2 Co. 4:11-12 "Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus... 12... but this has resulted in eternal life for you".

- H. **His beloved (church) is offered as a living sacrifice that the Lord himself celebrates and that in turn feeds the Church**. We can strengthen and feed others with the grace we receive from God. He longs for the Church to rejoice in the fruit of matured believers.

Rom. 12:1 "And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him."

Mat. 18:33 "Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?"

- I. **Summary of the 5 activities of Jesus in Song of Solomon 5:1**: Jesus collects myrrh, eats from the comb and drinks, and then offers the Bride to others as a

feast for them to partake of. The Lord enters her garden (**5:1a**) - draws near to her. He collects myrrh from her and scents from her (**5:1b**) - uses what the Holy Spirit worked in her. He eats His honeycomb and His honey (**5:1c**) - He feeds on the fruit of her maturity. He drinks His wine and His milk (**5:1d**) - He celebrates her maturity and delights in her. He invites his friends to eat (**5:1e**) - longs for the Church to rejoice in the fruit of matured believers.

IV. CONCLUTION

- A. One of the longings of God's heart is that as a church and as believers we reach maturity, which occurs when we respond with a willing and faith-filled heart to the love of God, understanding that we are His inheritance and then we cry out for His perfect will in our lives more than our complacency; That is where our heart becomes a garden in which our Beloved delights and delights to the point that he invites His friends to also delight in the work that His Holy Spirit has done in us for glory. of God.**

V. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. According to this teaching, what is a characteristic of Christian maturity?**
- 2. Do you consider that you have matured to the point that you ask the winds of the North (trials) and the South (blessings) to blow so that God can do His complete work in you and through you? Explain.**
- 3. Do you think Jesus is enjoying the fruit of your garden (heart)? Explain why or why not.**