

SONG OF SONGS: THE COMING GLORY OF THE BRIDE

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Songs. 6:8-9

“Sixty queens there may be, and eighty concubines, and virgins beyond number; but my dove, my perfect one, is unique, the only daughter of her mother, the favorite of the one who bore her. The young women saw her and called her blessed; the queens and concubines praised her.”

I. REVIEW

- A. After the test that the Shulamite passed through, the Beloved breaks the silence by expressing her maturity. He calls her her friend and compares her to the city of **Tirzah**, to the mighty armies of **Jerusalem**. He tells her that when her eyes look at Him **He cannot resist them because He has been captivated by her** and continues to speak of the qualities of the maiden, her **hair** (her dedication) of her; her **teeth** (her maturity in the Word) and her **cheeks** (sanctified emotions) **Songs 6:4-7.**

II. THE ROYAL COURTS OF THE HEAVENLY BRIDEGROOM

Songs. 6:8 “...Sixty queens there may be, and eighty concubines, and virgins beyond number”

- A. The royal court of King Solomon symbolizes the heavenly court of Jesus. Three positions of honor are used: **queens, concubines, and maidens**. The numbers **60, 80** and a group **“no number”** represent the different ranks of royalty. The queens had the higher rank than the concubines but in turn the concubines had higher rank than the maidens because they were legally part of the family and even had properties. The maids were in court as “staff members” but they did not have the same rights.
- B. **The main point is to see that the Bride has more honor than the entire crowd at this court.** Jesus is surrounded by hosts of glorious beings with different ranks (**Rev. 4 and 5**). The Bride surpasses them all. The purpose here is not to look for specific angelic groups that correspond to queens, concubines, and maidens but to point out that there are ranks of glory in the heavenly court (seraphim, cherubim, archangels, the 24 elders, etc.).
- C. **Of all the glorious hosts in the court of Jesus that will be in the New Jerusalem, He will have only one Wife; She is unrivaled, He does not long for anyone else. Jesus says, “of all those who attend my court, she is the only one for whom I gave my life”.**
- D. **“But only one is my precious little dove, my perfect one”** The Lord refers to the Shulamite as **His dove** and **His perfect one**. Being His dove refers to a focused heart that walks in the Spirit in her identity as the Bride of Christ. Being **the perfect one means that she has matured spiritually**. The Church of Jesus in the end times will mature in love by being filled with the glory of God displaying unprecedented unity and authority (**John 17:22-23**).

- E. These words of affection speak of the tenderness of Jesus towards his Bride (the Church). **He speaks to us this way because He thus sees us and values us. We must allow the reality of this deep love to transform our lives and remove rejection and insecurity.**

Ef. 5:25b-27a "...Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish..."

III. THE HONOR OF THE BRIDE IN THE FAMILY OF GOD

Songs. 6:9b "...the only daughter of her mother, the favorite of the one who bore her. The young women saw her and called her blessed; the queens and concubines praised her."

- A. **"She is the only one of her mother"** The mother is an image of the Church throughout history. God is our Father and the Church is presented as our mother (Ga. 4:26). **God is the author of our spiritual and natural birth. The means He uses for our natural birth is our biological mother. The means He uses for our spiritual birth is the witness of the Church, our spiritual mother.** Jesus said that those who do the Lord's will are His mother and His brothers (Matt 12:46-50).
- B. **The maturity of the Church has not yet happened in all its fullness.** The church in the book of Acts although glorious in various cities was not yet fully mature. **Before the Lord's return, the Church worldwide will be mature and without blemish or blame (Eph. 5: 26-27).** The end-time Church that survives the Great Tribulation will have a unique honor in history for faithfully walking through the time of greatest pressure before Jesus' return (Rev. 7:9-10).
- C. **Living as the Bride while on earth is walking in mature love.** The favorite work of the historic Church is the end-time harvest of souls and their full maturity. (Rev. 14:14-16; Eph. 5:27).
- D. The honor of the Bride in her maturity is seen in the phrase **"the maidens saw her and called her blessed" (6:9). The redeemed in history will worship God with the end-time Church by prevailing in love while she is on earth.**
- E. **"The queens and concubines, and they praised her"** The queens and concubines will honor the Church of the end times. **These may refer to the heavenly hosts rejoicing with joy as the Bride comes to her position of honor.** God is raising up a mature people on earth.
- F. **The Church of the end times will come to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (Eph. 4:13).** God will finish what He started and the gates of hell will not prevail against the Church (Matt. 16:18; Phil. 1:6). **From the point of view of heaven, the Church of all history will see the Church of the end times and will call her blessed, for that reason at this time the Lord is calling us out of spiritual lukewarmness (Rev. 3:14-22).**

Ap. 7:9-10 y 14 "After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.... 14... And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

IV. THE HOLY SPIRIT DESCRIBES THE 4 FACETS OF THE BRIDE'S CROWN OF GLORY

Songs. 6:10 "Who is this that appears like the dawn, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, majestic as the stars in procession?"

- A. The Bride is described as possessing a glory as a joint heir with Jesus comparing her to heavenly objects in the same way that Jesus compared her to earthly cities of Tirzah and Jerusalem (**Song 6:4**).
- B. The Spirit asks a rhetorical question, "**Who is this?**" Jesus had just declared the preeminence of the Bride in his court. **The Spirit now affirms that place of preeminence.** Three times in the Song he asks the same question (**Song 3:6, 6:10; 8:5**).
- C. "**Appears like the dawn**" The ministry of the Bride in society appears as the dawn that shines in the morning. After the long night, the glow of dawn hovers over the horizon. **The Church in this age functions as salt** (flavor, preservation) **and light** (direction, life) **according to what Jesus said in Matt. 5: 13-16.** This emphasizes the impact that God's people will have on individuals and society.
- D. In this era also the Church "**shines as beautiful as the moon.**" The moon was established by God to provide light at night (**Gen. 1:14-19**). It does not emit its own light; receives sunlight and reflects it. **The church is a source of God's light in a dark and fallen world as we participate in the evangelization and transformation of our culture by standing firm in the spiritual warfare (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:15).** We live in times of great darkness and the light of the gospel that the church preaches and lives is the only true and lasting hope that shines.

Dn. 12:3 "Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever."

- E. **The Church will also reign with Jesus and reflect the light of God in eternity (Is. 60:1-3, 19-20; 24:23; 59:19; 62:1; Ez. 43:2; Psal. 50:2; Mal. 4:2; 2 Co. 4:6; Jn. 8:12; 1 Jn. 1:5; Matt. 5:14-16; Phlp. 2:15; Dn. 12:3; 1 Co. 15:41-42; Song. 6:10).**
- F. The government of the Bride is "**Awesome as an army with banners**" (**Song 6:10**) which speaks of how the Bride will reign in the governmental administration of the kingdom of Jesus forever..

Dn. 7:27 "Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be handed over to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him..."

Rev. 3:21 "To him who overcomes [lukewarmness] I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne."

G. There are three progressive stages in the glory of God over the church:

- 1. First she experiences the dawn of God's light (1 Pet. 2: 9).**
- 2. Then she shines forth in this age like a full moon in spiritual warfare and evangelism. (Matt. 5: 13-16)**
- 3. In the end she shines like the sun in the age to come.** In all of this, she rules forever as God's instrument in his government (**Rev. 21:23-24, 11:1:16**).

1 Jn. 3:2 "Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

V. CONCLUSIÓN

A. In this passage Jesus compares the victorious church that walks in the Holy Spirit with seven analogies:

- 1. It is compared to Tirzah, referring to her beauty before the unbelievers.**
- 2. She is compared to Jerusalem, referring to her beauty before believers.**
- 3. She is compared to an earthly army, referring to the triumph over her own heart.**
- 4. She is compared to dawn, referring to persevere God's order on earth in this era.**
- 5. It is like the moon, referring to its victory in evangelism and transformation.**
- 6. It's like the sun, referring to the success of it in glory as a coheir of the eternal city.**
- 7. It is like God's army with authority over all things including nations during the Millennium.**

VI. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. According to this teaching, how can you overcome insecurity and fear in your own life?**
- 2. What is our call as a church at this time?**
- 3. What makes you feel for the church when you see that Jesus expresses about Her this positive and exalted way?**