

SONGS OF SONGS: THE MATURITY OF THE BRIDE

Houses of Light Church • April 24-25, 2021 • Pastor Netz Gómez

I. REVIEW

- A. In **Songs 6:5c-7** Jesus describes the maturity and pre-eminence of the bride in the royal court of Him, among angelic beings, including seraphim, cherubs and angels without number (**Songs 6:8-9**). And then Jesus uses four more allegories to express the glory of the bride in four stages.

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?"

- B. First, the ministry of the bride in society is like the dawn that is shown or shine when all this is dark. Second, the ministry of the bride in this era is like the full moon that shines in the dark as we make spiritual warfare and work in the evangelism that transforms society (**Matt. 5:16, Phil 2:15**). Third, the ministry of the bride in the coming era is like the sun because we radiate the light of Jesus in the new Jerusalem (**Rev. 21:11**). Finally, the government of the bride is as impactful as powerful armies while we reign with Him during the Millennium.

II. THE COMMITMENT OF THE BRIDE TO SERVE THE WHOLE CHURCH

Songs. 6:11 "I went down to the grove of nut trees to look at the new growth in the valley, to see if the vines had budded or the pomegranates were in bloom."

- A. The garden is mentioned 9 times in singing. The first 3 references are about the gardens of the bride (**Songs 4:12, 15, 16**). The last 6 references are about the Lord's garden (**Songs 4:16, 5:1, 6:2, 11, 7:12, 8:13**).
- B. The Bride descends to God's garden to see if the plants were budding and flourishing. She showed the daughters of Jerusalem that Jesus could be found in His garden feeding His people (**Songs 6:2-3**). **Therefore, she descends to the garden of the Lord to join Him because she longs to be where He is.**

Psal. 42:2 "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and [c]lappear before God?"

- C. **The garden includes nut trees, which gives a clear image of spiritual truth.** Walnut trees provide refuge from summer heat due to their dense shadow, as well as an economic value in food production. Also the oil of nuts is used to make soap, which speaks of purification.
- D. Life in the walnut seed is inside, **so the seed must die and break before it can provide food, oil or healing for others. We must die ourselves to provide food, cleaning and healing for others.**

Jn. 12:24 "Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds."

- E. She **"descended"** because he has an interest in God's vineyard. **She sees the flourishing garden of God in the middle of the Valley of this fallen world and approaches to see if the vine had sprout, which can mean being attentive to the work of God elsewhere.**
- F. In the Scripture, the vineyard talks about the people of God and His relationship with Him (**Is. 5, Jn 15**). The budding vineyard, speaks of the vine that still has no fruit. She sees the vineyard of God without much fruit, however, Jesus could still see shoots and flowers and that is what she can also recognize. **In Songs 2:11-13, the blooming vineyard was a prophetic vision of the coming visitation of God.**
- G. **The blooming pomegranate refer to individual believers.** The bride sees the budding virtues that there is in others as the Lord saw them in her when they were barely developing (**Songs. 4:1-5**). She learned to get excited about the blooming vineyards because the enthusiasm she saw from the Lord for her while she was still immature.
- H. **The bride is saying "Yes!" to Lk 4:18 call.** We can "descend" to help those who are immature in other places outside our known environment. **Is to leave the comfort zone to embrace the difficulty of love and help others, beyond our immediate circle.**

Lk. 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed."

III. THE MAIDEN IS OVERWHELMED BY LOVE TO THE CHURCH

Songs. 6:12 "Before I was even aware, My soul had made me As the chariots of [Amindanab] my noble people."

- A. **"Before I was even aware..."** while she is in the valley working on the vineyard that is budding, suddenly her soul places her over the chariots of her noble people. **This describes the zeal that she feels for others.** The soul of the bride moved promptly. In the ancient world, a carriage was the easiest and fastest way to travel with luggage over long distances. The best chariots belonged to the nobles or the royal family.
- B. **"My soul put me among the royal chariots..."** In other words, instantly she felt a strong longing for serving the people of God. **She descend to see the progress of God's work, she was moved instantly by the desire to help others.** (**2 Co. 5:11, 14**). Instead of giving up for immaturity, pride, bad applications of the Word or due to lack of discernment of these "budding vineyards" **she is amazed by the tender compassion she feels.**
- C. **She is amazed by this new movement of her heart.** Before realizing, the young woman had new longings and burden with great enthusiasm for helping others. **This is the work of the Holy Spirit.**

2 Cor. 13:11 "Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you."

Phil. 2:20 "For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your condition."

- D. **God loves the whole Church, not just the part in which we are involved.** He longs for us to have a sense of ownership throughout the whole church, not only because of the small part that is under our authority. **The zeal by the whole Church is essential for the unity of the Church of recent times.** Many only support what belongs to them.

Jn. 17:21 "that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me."

- E. **The Lord is raising pastors who are concerned about their great purposes, and are training the people to love the entire global church.** The Bride is full of love for the Body of Christ, in the same way that Joseph loved his brothers, without having any feeling of bitterness by the way they had treated him (**Gn. 50:15-21**).
- F. In the next chapter the bride continues with this same load walking with diligence.

Songs. 7:12 "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. There I will give you my love."

IV. THE TWO ANSWERS FOR THE BRIDE

Songs. 6:13 "Return, return, O Shulamite; Return, return, that we may look upon you!. What would you see in the Shulamite— As it were, the dance of the two camps?"

- A. The first response to the Bride is one of respect and admiration. In **Songs 6:1** The daughters of Jerusalem wanted to look for the Lord with the bride,. Here, expressly express the longing to learn from it clamoring four times **"return!"**. **They longed for the maiden to return to the work in the valley garden, seen in Songs. 6:11-12. Our work is necessary for many to reach salvation, forgiveness of sins and healing in Christ.**
- B. This cry has also been interpreted as Christ remembering His spouse when she had left **and just as she looked for Him, now that she is already this ready He wants to see her and that's why He repeats the word "return!" four times to indicate His passionate love for her.**
- C. The bride is called **Shulamite** because she grew up in the Israelite city of Shulem. This is the only place in the Song where the bride is called **the Shulamite**. Solomon and Shulem come from the same word that means

peace and this title means that she is the wife of Solomon; **Jesus and His Bride have the same name He is belongs to her and she belongs to Him.**

Eph. 3:14-15 "For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,"

- D. ***"What would you see in the Shulamite"*** or *"Why do you want her to come back?"* "The Bridegroom wants everyone to see the beauty of His beloved which includes the two peoples the Jew and the Gentile.

Eph. 2:14 "For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation."

- E. ***"As it were, the dance of the two camps?"***. The literal translation is *"the dances of Mahanaim"*. Which can be translated as *"Two camps or Two armies"* or as the name of the city. Mahanaim is the city in which Jacob came to meet angels.

Ge. 32:1-2 "So Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. 2 When Jacob saw them, he said, "This is God's camp." And he called the name of that place Mahanaim [Double camp]"

- F. Esau chase Jacob with the intention of killing him because Jacob had stolen his birthright. In Mahanaim, Jacob divided the his people into two camps so that Esau could only destroy one if he came to attack them. Jacob saw Angeles in Mahanaim who intervened to help him in this great conflict.
- G. These two confederated camps together, can mean the union of heaven and earth, and also the union between Gentiles and Jews; which are operated only in Christ by the work of him, the power of him and the spirit of him work in the nations. It can also mean the help of God when there are attacks on the part of the spiritual or natural family.

Eph. 1:10 "to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ."

V. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How interested are you for of the work of the Lord elsewhere?
2. What do you believe the call of Luke 4:18 is and how do you feel that you can fulfill it?
3. Do you have an ardent longing to serve the people of God? Explain.