

SONG OF SONGS: THE MATURE HEART OF THE BRIDE

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I. REVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

- A. In the past teaching (**Song 8:5-7**) we saw the beloved coming out of the desert leaning on her beloved which speaks of how she learned to lean on her beloved during times of difficulty. **The Beloved asks her to put Him as a seal upon her heart and as a mark on her arm precisely because His love is as strong and jealous as death. This kind of seal of passionate love is what produces a love for God that cannot be quenched by the many waters of trials or even the end-time tribulation.**
- B. This new segment (**Song 8:8-14**) tells the story of how a young maiden grew into a passionate, mature bride. Now, she reveals how she sees herself because she already knows who she is. **As a church we can only live as the Bride of Christ as we walk in the revelation, trust, and radical obedience that we have.** The Bride offers two final intercessory prayers, first for the Church (**8:8-9**) and then for the return of Jesus (**8:14**).

II. THE PASSION AND INTERCESSION OF THE BRIDE FOR THE CHURCH

Songs. 8:8 "We have a little sister, And she hath no breasts: What shall we do for our sister In the day when she shall be spoken for?"

- A. In overflowing with having the seal of love in her heart (**Song 8: 6-7**), the Bride is aware of the spiritual condition of others who have remained newborn in Christ and intercedes for them.
- B. The Bride (mature church) speaks to Jesus saying: **"we have a little sister" she speaks like this because she has the same feeling of Jesus. We work together with the Lord and with others to help the lost and immature.**
- C. **The fact that she can see the need in her little sister is the work of the Holy Spirit.** Immature believers are also under the responsibility of the Bride. **The "little sister" is poor in faith and therefore she easily loses her courage in difficulties. She gives up when she's under pressure.**
- D. The little sister **"has no breasts,"** which means that she cannot feed others with the milk of the Word. **She relates to those with whom she shares, but she refuses to take responsibility for others, being overwhelmed with her own problems and needs. She remains a spiritual baby, focused on herself.**
- E. **The Bride is not offended with the little sister because of her immaturity, on the contrary, she asks for the Lord's advice and help about her little sister saying: "What shall we do to our sister?"** How can we help her to mature? (**Song 6:11; 7:11**). **This is the heart of a spiritual father or mother (1 Thes. 2:11). She is not satisfied by pursuing the Lord without helping others to follow Jesus.**

- F. Some people do not want to be responsible for others but the Lord speaks to us as he spoke to **Joshua (1: 2) "My servant Moses is dead; now, then, get up and cross this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land that I give to the children of Israel. "**
- G. **The Lord wants all the people to inherit the land, not just you individually.** The Lord tells us: "*Where are your brothers? Where are your little sisters?* "
- H. **"What will we do for our sister?"** This question became deeply ingrained in the heart of the Bride. She wonders what she can do in collaboration with Jesus to help her sister. **Many believers forget to associate with Jesus when taking responsibility for others.**
- I. The phrase "**when she shall be spoken for**" can also be translated "**when they come to ask for her?**" it make reference when they come to ask her to marry her. **The mature Bride knows that eventually everyone will appear before the Lord (Rom. 14:10; 2 Cor. 5:10).** For those who seek the Lord with all their hearts, the sense that Jesus asks us to marry us speaks of a deep and mature union and it happens in this life but the culmination occurs when we have to face the judgment seat of Christ and for this we must be prepared and prepare others.

III. THE BRIDE TAKES THE INITIATIVE

Songs. 8:9 "If she be a wall, We will build upon her a turret of silver: And if she be a door, We will inclose her with boards of cedar."

- A. **The Bride intercedes for her little sister before the Lord with two possibilities:**
 - 1. **If the little sister is called to be a spiritual wall, then the Bride and the Lord will build on her.** A wall provides defense to a city and establishes a line of demarcation. **We all have a call to protect the people from the enemy's attack and raise the banners of God's Word to walk in holiness.** In **Songs. 8:10**, the Bride speaks of herself: **"I am a wall..." This includes protecting others and being a spokesperson for the biblical standard. There are pressures to be a wall.** When the enemy shoots darts to destroy those younger, the wall gets in the way to protect them.
 - 2. **If the younger sister is called to be a spiritual door, then the Bride and the Lord will cover her.** One door is the entry point for others. **When we are door we give access to grace and salvation for others as intercessors, evangelists, teachers or apostles.** Intercessors open doors of opportunity for others. Evangelists open the door for non-believers to come to the kingdom. Teachers open the door for believers to go deeper into God. The apostles open doors to entire regions for new initiatives in God.
 - Col. 4:3 "withal praying for us also, that God may open unto us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ..."**

- B. **The Lord and the Bride will work to help you be effective in responding to God's call on your life.** The Bride tells Jesus: **"We will build on it a turret of silver."** The turret of a fortification was at the top of the tower where archers shot through holes in the stone to defend the city from enemies. **Silver speaks of redemption.** There has never been a silver palace; they were usually made of stone. **The ramparts (Battlements) of silver speak of bringing redemption to others.**
- C. **If the grace on the life of the little sister leads her to be an intercessor, evangelist, teacher, etc. So the Bride prays: "Let's protect her with cedar boards."** The cedars of Lebanon are aromatic and were used in the construction of Solomon's temple for the place where the presence of God would dwell (**1 Kings 4:33; 5:6**). These tablets were expensive, strong and aromatic and speak of the fragrance of Christ in us (**2 Cor. 2:16**). **Being surrounded with cedar wood from Lebanon refers to being clothed with the person and presence of Jesus.**
- Ro. 13:14 "Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh"**
- D. The Bride prayed: **"We will cover her ..."** Jesus and the Bride will work together with the little sister to be safeguarded by God and clothed with Christ.

IV. THE SAFETY OF THE BRIDE: REVELATION OF HOW GOD SEES HER

Songs. 8:10 "I am a wall, and my breasts are like towers. Thus I have become in his eyes like one bringing contentment."

- A. **The fullness of the Bride's identity includes a revelation that keeps her safe.** She has revelation of her true spiritual stature. This is a reality of the Church that is little known but very powerful.
- B. **In a selfless way, the Bride sees herself as a "wall" to protect and help others. Her time, energy, finances, and dreams are tied to serving this great purpose in God.** Paul saw himself as a wall of protection for others. (**1 Thes. 2: 7-12; Ga. 2: 11-14**). **Tower-like breasts** refer to the supernatural ability to care for others. **Three times it has been compared to a tower. (4: 4; 7: 4; 8:10).**
- C. **She is confident in her effectiveness in ministry.** Jesus commissioned her so that her breasts would be like clusters of the vine in **Songs. 7: 8. She knows that she has the ability to use the word to help others.** This is not arrogance. Paul, John the Baptist, Samuel, and Moses had the same confidence.
- 1 Co. 11:1 "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."**
- D. **This assurance comes only by revelation (not pride) and fills the maiden with great gratitude.** She has security in the ministry and her maturity because God told her so. **She can say before God that she lives to serve her**

people throughout her life because that is what the Lord thinks. **She has the testimony that she is doing the will of God.**

- E. **"I am like one who has found peace"** The maiden has peace in her life and in her calling in the eyes of God, in front of One's audience. Finding peace before Jesus is not the same as finding peace before Jesus. others. **This kind of peace with God removes emotional hindrances in her life. She enjoys living in the eyes of the Lord.**
- F. **This assurance makes the believer emotionally powerful, as she does God's work.** We must realize how much emotional energy we use in condemnation, fear, doubt, and insecurity. **The burning seal of love in her heart has produced this certainty and her pure motives (Song 8: 6).**
- G. Paul was criticized by many in the Church and still had peace and confidence (**1 Cor. 4: 3-5**). How wonderful it is to know after years of ministry that you served Jesus with all your heart. **The Bride was left at peace with God's design for her life, knowing that she lives to unite with Jesus.** It is essential to understand our life and have confidence that we are fulfilling the will of God.

V. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Do you intercede for those who are immature or unbelievers? Explain
2. Who are you helping to grow spiritually? And if you haven't already, make up your mind to start praying about this and begin this week.
3. Do you consider yourself a source of protection for others? Explain.
4. Do you feel confident in the effectiveness of your mystery? Explain your answer.
5. Do you consider that you are fulfilling the will of God in your life? Explain