SONG OF SONGS: THE TRUST AND INTERCESSION OF THE BRIDE

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I. REVIEW

- A. While the Bride receives the seal of love, she is aware of the spiritual condition of others who have remained newborn in Christ and intercedes for them asking: "What will we do for our sister?" She wants to know what she can do in collaboration with Jesus to help her younger sister. Many believers forget to associate with Jesus by taking responsibility for others.
- B. If the little sister is called to be a spiritual wall, then the Bride and the Lord will build a bulwark on her. We all have a call to protect people from enemy attack and raise the banners of God's Word about holiness. If the younger sister is called to be a spiritual door, then the Bride and the Lord will cover her. When we are a door we give access to grace for others such as intercessors, evangelists, teachers or apostles. The Lord and the Bride will work to help the younger sister be effective in responding to God's call on her life.

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

Songs. 8:10 "I am a <u>wall</u>, and my breasts are like <u>towers</u>. Then I became in his eyes As one who found <u>peace</u>."

A. The fullness of the Bride's identity includes a revelation of her true spiritual stature that keeps her safe. This is a reality of the Church that is little known but very powerful.

2 Cor. 6:6 "<u>by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the</u> <u>Holy Spirit, by [b]sincere love</u>." (NIV)

- B. "I am a wall" In a clear way the maiden is seen 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 Thess. 2: 7-12). The "tower-like" breasts refer to the supernatural ability to build up and protect others.
- C. The Bride is confident that she is effective in ministry. She knows that she has the ability to use the Word to help others. This is not arrogance. Many servants of God in Scripture had the same confidence. This assurance comes only by revelation and fills the maiden with great gratitude. She can say before God that she lives to serve her people throughout her life because that is the assignment that the Lord gave her and that she gave us all (Eph. 4:16).
- D. *"I am like one who has found peace"* The maiden has peace in her life and in her calling in the eyes of God. This kind of peace with God removes emotional hindrances in her life. We must realize how much emotional energy we use in condemnation, fear, doubt, and insecurity.
- E. She enjoys living in the eyes of the Lord, this assurance makes the believer emotionally powerful, as she does God's work. The burning seal of love in her heart and her pure motives have produced this peace. 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 maiden was left at peace with God's design for her life, knowing that she lives to unite with Jesus. It is essential to have confidence that we are fulfilling the will of God.

III. THE REVELATION OF THE BRIDE'S LIABILITY BEFORE GOD

Songs. 8:11 "Solomon had a vineyard at Baal Hamon; <u>He leased the vineyard to</u> <u>keepers; Everyone was to bring for its fruit A thousand silver coins.</u>"

- A. The result of living before the eyes of our Beloved is the understanding of our eternal responsibility and reward before God (1 Cor. 3: 11-15; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 14: 12-14). Every believer will give an account to God for his life on earth. The Bride's revelation of eternal rewards dignifies her smallest acts of obedience and gives each day a sense of purpose.
- B. King Solomon owned a vineyard which he had leased to some guards. Jesus has a vineyard, which represents his people (Isa. 5: 1-7). The vineyard of King Jesus at Baal-hamun has grown dramatically throughout history. (Rev. 7: 9) and entrusted her to his Bride knowing that she would care for her for him.
- C. In the parable of **Mat. 21:33-44**, Jesus made reference to **Song. 8:11-12**, teaching about a landowner who planted a vineyard, built a tower and *"leased"* it to a guardian and went to a distant land. We are living in the time when the Lord is in that *"distant land."* and he entrusted us with the responsibility of being the keepers to cultivate his vineyard. Each believer was given a certain stewardship in his vineyard. You don't need to wait for an official "job description" or a ministry title to be faithful to his service. Start serving people.
- D. She understands that "each of whom" will give an account to the King for his assigned task (Lk. 12: 31-48). Each one is responsible for cultivating his vineyard in such a way that it produces fruit. The Lord rewards us based on the measure of our faithfulness, not on our talents or opportunities.
- E. The Lord desires the full reward of the fruit of each guardian. Each must bring "a thousand pieces of silver." The number "Thousand" is a complete number which means the totality of what God requires according to what was entrusted to each person. These thousand pieces are mentioned in this passage to signify the totality of the potential value of the vineyard.

IV. THE BRIDE'S CONFIDENCE THAT SHE HAS BEEN FAITHFUL TO GOD

Songs. 8:12 "My own vineyard is before me. You, O Solomon, may have a thousand, And those who tend its fruit two hundred."

- A. The Bride is sure that she will give an account for this responsibility that was given by Jesus. This includes her personal life and her ministry work. In the beginning of her journey he had neglected her vineyard but now she is no longer like that (Song 1:6).
- B. The Bride is sure that she can give Jesus everything He expects of her by declaring that she has the *"thousand pieces of silver"* that He requires of her in the previous verse. She recognizes that those who *"keep its fruit"* will

have a portion of their productivity when they present themselves before **God.** She only fulfilled her mandate while she worked as a team with others. Each servant will share her reward in eternity. The 200 silver coins refer to the portion of the award that her servants will receive on the final day.

Jn. 4:38 "I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."

V. ETHE LAST COMMISSION FROM JESUS FOR THE BRIDE

Songs. 8:13 "You who dwell in the gardens, The companions listen for your voice— Let me hear it!."

- A. Jesus' last words to the Bride praise her effectiveness in serving the Church. Jesus says to her: "You who dwell in the gardens" to affirm that she is still serving her people rather than retreating into selfish isolation. She did not quit. The gardens (plural) refer to the many parts of the Church.
- B. The Bride's credibility and impact is seen to the end when Jesus claims that the companions she served *"hear her voice"* because there is a **maturity in her life that is obvious to them.** They see the reality of God in her, therefore they will receive what she speaks.
- C. Once again, Jesus calls the Bride to fervent worship and intercession, telling her that He still longs to hear her voice. If her voice was sweet to Him even in her immaturity (Song 2:14) how sweet is her voice now that she walks in complete union with Him as her beloved companion. The Lord longs to continually hear our voice in 4 ways:
 - 1. In *praise*, because He wants to hear us declaring our love for Him.
 - 2. In *intercession*, by uniting ourselves to Jesus who intercedes forever (**Heb. 7:25**).
 - 3. By *teaching*, as we speak the Word to each other (Mt. 28: 19-20; Col. 1:28).
 - 4. In *evangelism*, sharing the gospel with unbelievers.
- D. That is why the enemy wants to silence our voice.

VI. THE URGENT INTERCESSION IS FOR JESUS TO COME BACK SOON

Songs. 8:14 "<u>Make haste, my beloved,</u> And be like a gazelle Or a young stag On the mountains of spices."

- A. The Bride immediately obeys Jesus' exhortation to let him hear his voice, interceding for him to come soon. We see the urgency and longing of her heart to be with Him. She calls Him, "*My Beloved*" because her love for Him is her strength to the end.
- B. In **Songs. 2:8, 17** Jesus was revealed as the roe deer and the fawn that conquered the mountains **and here she asks Jesus to return soon, like a gazelle that conquers all the opposing mountains to manifest himself as the victorious King over all obstacles of this century.**
- C. The maiden offers a three-faceted prayer; the Church of the end of the age has this same intercession.

Ap. 22:17,20 "And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!"... 20 Surely I am coming quickly."

- 1. Come close to us in intimacy (breakthrough into our heart)
- 2. Come to us in revival (regional breakthrough of the Holy Spirit)
- 3. Come for us in heaven (historical breakthrough the 2nd coming of Jesus)
- D. This will be the *first time* in history that the world Church will be dynamically in unity with the Spirit. Therefore, the Spirit will indwell and move through the Church with great power. The expression of the cry of the Bride for the coming of Jesus in:
 - 1. Adoration: "We love you, we beg you to come for our love."
 - 2. **Intercession:** "We need you, we pray that you will return and unleash the power of revival."
- E. This 2-dimensional cry out:
 - 1. Vertical: a *call to Jesus* to come to us with power (close / to / for us)
 - 2. Horizontal: a call *to the people* who are thirsty to come to Jesus as the King-Bridegroom.
- F. We call on believers (revival / discipleship) and unbelievers (evangelism) to experience the Bridegroom-Husband God. The Church will "summon" in those two directions.
- G. *"On the mountains of spices."* The throne of God and the abode of the Bride is a great mountain of divine fragrance (**Cnt. 8:14**).

VII.REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1. Do you feel confident that you are capable of doing God's work? Explain
- 2. How focused do you live on the eternal rewards you will receive for your work in God?
- 3. In what ways does Jesus like to hear your voice and in which one (s) do you like to participate the most?
- 4. Have you cried out for Jesus come? Explain in which of the ways.