

Song of Songs Chapter 1

Bride speaking to the Father. Talking about Jesus.

Cry for intimacy. Deeper relationship.

Kisses are love and reconciliation. She is thinking about Him. Wants love and reconciliation. OT “church” was waiting for deliverance from the Law. Kisses of Grace to the wounds of the Law. Words of His own mouth. He is the Word.

This is one of many ways that He touches us. Weight of His Presence. She speaks as if He is not close by or there.

This is better than wine – earthly celebration. Wine exhilarates the heart. Prefer Christ above all other things. Above pleasures of the world. Now she speaks to Him right there. Lovesick bride.

His Love for us is like the Father’s Love for Him. John 15:9.

The more we experience Him and understand, the more we love Him.

Fragrance- Beauty of God. What God is. Graces and comforts. Christ is a fragrant ointment. II Cor 2: 14-15. Sacrifices were fragrant to God.

His **Name** is what He does!

Oil which is the Spirit- poured forth. Can’t be contained. Freeness of Grace being poured out. Grace, not Law. Makes it difficult to continue with legalism.

The virgins love Him- the saints. Those who follow Him.

Satan wants us to think we are rejected by God. Then we move away.

Bride finds how much she is enjoyed by God. Extravagant love. Revelation of the Father's Love.

"Draw me away" – desires union. Wants to be close. No one can come unless they are drawn. We would not move on our own. Jesus to Peter, Paul-no one can say Jesus is Lord except by the Spirit. Then we find out the bonds and the unbounded Love.

After He draws us, **then** we run after Him. He upholds us. Ps 63:8; Jer 31:3; Isa 40:31. Spirit poured out on the Church. Then we do ministry.

Want to be extravagant worshipper. Running is also obedience. Passion. Our commitment comes out of gratitude and revelation. Opposite of legalism that teaches that **OUR** commitment produces God's commitment to us.

Daughters of Jerusalem also. They will be won over also. At this point they are not as committed as the Bride. More of a "carnal" church. More committed people make less committed people unhappy.

King's chambers – people drawn to Christ are brought in. She asks and he takes her there. Special place in the Lord. In His palace. Brings whoever calls on Him. Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Preparation place for the bride- worship and service. Gladness and rejoicing. Rejoice in Him. Brought in by grace. His Love means more than any earthly thing.

V5: Dark but lovely. The darkness of sin. She sees her sinfulness. Tells the daughters of Jerusalem – they see her dark sinfulness also. How can she get the intimacy that she wants – she is in sin and dark.

We see our sin and shame. Feel that we cannot relate to God. We are unacceptable. Falling short causes us pain. Settle for second-rate relationship. We also see the failings of others.

But, she also sees that she is lovely to Jesus ! Paradox of Grace ! He sees our willing hearts and spirits rather than our guilt and shame.

She realizes this when she is in the chamber.

Dark but lovely – paradox of Grace. We need to understand this to grow and mature. We tend to see the darkness of our hearts. His love transcends this. Still wants intimacy.

Sincere desire to follow Jesus is the beginning.

Finished Work of the Cross – we are beautiful to Him. We are the Bride.

Tents of Kedar – second son of Ishmael. Covered with dark animal skins; and always dirty. Common people would understand what this meant. Shepherds were low people.

Sins of people and the Church are black.

But now...Solomon's curtains. Beautiful, white, ornate, perfectly clean. Curtains in the palace and in the Temple.

God's Grace and Glory. Christ Righteousness covering us. Rom 3:20-21.

Only the High Priest could see the Holy Place. God sees our inner self. Others see our outer selves.

Bride tells the daughters not to look at her. Seems to be dark. They can only see her outer self. "Tan-" only hard working lowly people were dark. She still looks lowly and dark.

