

Song of Songs Chapter 1 II

We are all “tanned” by Adam’s sin. All scarred by the natural world. She (we) look(s) black and dark to the world but not to Christ. We are “tanned” of ourselves. Also true of the Church.

Mother refers to the Church. Church is our spiritual mother. Her brothers were angry. Other members of the Church (Mother). Her own brothers that profess the same mother are a problem. Not necessarily of the same Father. They are “carnal” believers. Fervent believers make them angry and uncomfortable.

They make her do work the way they want in the church. Vineyard refers to churches. They keep her busy with “work.” These brothers tend to exalt themselves. Ministries that don’t build. More about them. She is overworked. Burned out. Zealous Christians trust everyone else. Now she is serving Him from a distance.

Her own vineyard is **her** relationship with the Groom, with the Lord. **Her** heart before the Lord. She cries out to Him because she knows she is failing. She knows it is her fault.

V.7: I want to know where **YOU** are! Wants to be touched like she was before. Not being fed by the others.

Sheep lying down in the heat of the day. Sheep only lie down when they are full and satisfied. Noon is the heat of they day. They can rest in Him. Needs to spend

V:8 : Groom answers her. Calls her the fairest among women. She calls herself black. We are low in our own eyes but not His.

Gives her a gentle answer; not stern. Even though she should have known. She had done a lot of other things. He speaks to her heart before He speaks to her mind. The focus is on her beauty.

He tells her to follow the flock – Body of Christ. Good Shepherd. The sheep know His voice. Devil wants to isolate us. We sometimes isolate ourselves.

Little goats are those sent to us. They need to be fed. Stay by the shepherd's tents-true teachers and spiritual authorities. Patience with imperfect leaders.

V. 9: Horses are strength. Pharaoh's horses are the finest. We are weak in ourselves but he makes us strong. Used in references to battle: Job 39:19, Zec 10:3, Hab 3:15, Isa 63:13. Even though we feel like failures, we are trained and strengthened.

V 10: He makes ornaments for us: Isa 61:3. He sees our hearts and willingness even through our faults. Our prayers are also ornaments. Gold is royal authority and divine character. Makes us more beautiful.

V 11: She will be even more beautiful. **We** will make up whatever is lacking. Will be an extravagant worshipper. Made more complete. Trinitarian.

Also cooperation of individual believers.

V 12: **King** at the table – royal table and feast. Head of the table. He has fellowship with those around the table. Eucharist. She is sitting and enjoying Him.

Spikenard- very expensive fragrance. John 12:3 - Mary anointed Christ with spikenard. He was at a table. We are a fragrance. Also her prayers and devotions.

Time with Him and understanding Who He is and what He did. If we are too afraid of judgment, we can't enter into worship.

V 13: Myrrh represents death. Very expensive. It is also a perfume. The costly death of Christ is also sweet. Lies next to her heart. Contemplates this all night. She was fed at the Communion table and now contemplates all of this. Bosom.

V 14: Henna blooms also a sweet fragrance. His yoke is easy. En Gedi had the most fragrant henna.

V 15: She is fair and beautiful. Not a prideful thing. She is actually dark. Through grace. He **always** has to remind us. It should comfort us because we are always discouraged by our blackness (sin). Said twice- for emphasis. He sees her as beautiful. Us too.

Paradox of Grace. He proves it on the Cross.

Dove's eyes – not piercing eyes like an eagle. Chaste, humble, sincere eyes. Doves have no peripheral vision. Look forward and follow.

V 16: Church returns praise to Him. Example Ex 15:11. Covenant that establishes the relationship. We see His Beauty and His Love. Overwhelmed by what he has done.

Recognize that we are co-heirs Rom 8:17. She says it is “ours.” It is our inheritance. Green is pleasant and fruitful. Shepherd’s work.

V 17: House is a cedar. Good smell. Does not rot. Symbolizes relationship between Christ and the Church. Solomon used cedar in the temple.

Fir or cypress- good smell, strong. Everything about the Covenant of Grace is firm, fine, and fragrant. Grace and fellowship with Christ.