

"The Progression Of Holy Passion"

Session Thirteen: Song of Songs 5:6-16

I) Introduction

- A) Today we are going to look at both Jesus' inheritance in the bride (5:1) and Jesus' call to the bride to join Him in the fellowship of His sufferings (5:2). We will also look at the brides obedient response to follow Jesus into the place of shame, rejection and suffering in God (5:3-5).

II) The First Part Of Her Great Two-Fold Test; The Loss Of His Presence (SOS 5:6)

- A) **Song of Songs 5:6** *"I opened for my Beloved, by my Beloved had turned away and was gone. My heart leaped up when He spoke. I sought Him, but I could not find Him; I called Him but He gave me no answer."*
- 1) As the bride has risen in 100% obedience to answer His knock and invitation at the door, she opens for Him, steps outside but He's nowhere to be found. She says that *"her heart leaped up when He spoke, but could not find Him."*
 - 2) If you remember from **Chapter 3** the bride lost His presence and got up and started searching for Him and eventually found Him. In Chapter 3 she arose in disobedience and found Him, but here in **Chapter 5** she arose in obedience but couldn't find Him.
 - 3) This is a new experience for her to respond in obedience but be unable to find Him. The Church doesn't really have a theology for those that can't feel His presence. We become much like Job's friends assuming the reason for the distance is something sinful.
 - 4) In **Song of Songs 1:4** the bride laid out her life vision which was *"draw me away with You, and we will run after You."* And she has now lost the first part of her life vision which was to be near Him in intimacy under the leadership and approval of Jesus. It's Jesus who has invited her into this crisis (**SOS 5:2**).
 - 5) The silence of heaven often tell us more about what's really living within us than open heavens. Under the pressure of a closed heaven we find out who we really are.

III) The Second Part Of Her Great Two-Fold Test; The Loss Of Her Ministry (SOS 5:7)

- A) **Song of Songs 5:7** *"The watchmen who went about the city found me. They struck me, they wounded me; the keepers of the walls took away my veil from me."*

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- 1) It's here that the bride encounters the Saul watchmen within the body of Christ. It's here in the house of her friends that she is struck and wounded (**Ps. 55:12-21**), and loses her position of ministry within the body of Christ.
 - (i) **"They struck me"**=This word literally means to punish, to hit, to smite to attack to destroy and to give stripes.
 - (ii) **"They wounded me"**=This word wound literally means to bruise, to split open and to deeply wound. The wounds of the mouth are much stronger than the physical wounds to our bodies.
 - (iii) **"They took my veil from me"**=This word is the word shawl, mantel or the cloak of God upon her life. This represented her ministry or place of service within the body.
- 2) She has now lost the second part of her two-fold life vision from **Song of Songs 1:4** **"...And we will run after You."** She no longer has a place of ministry within the body, being struck and wounded by the Shepherd's and it's all under Jesus' leadership and oversight.
- 3) This brings up questions as to why God allows hardship and pressure in our lives and here are few short answers;
 - (i) He's teaching us the depths of His heart. We meet God in places of pain and difficulty.
 - (ii) He's building us into Christ-likeness and it comes through pain and hardship.
 - (iii) He's teaching us to look at Him, not those who are mistreating us.
 - (iv) He's exposing the false foundations within our hearts. It's under silence and pressure that we see what's really alive within us.
 - (v) He knows something we don't. There's something bigger going on.

IV) The Brides Response Of Humility and Love (SOS 5:8)

- A) **Song of Songs 5:8** ***"I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem; if you find my Beloved that you tell Him I'm lovesick."***

- 1) This is the first response from the bride in the midst of her great two-fold test and it's the response of humility and an un-offended bride. She's under serve pressure, having lost His presence and her place of ministry, but she's not offended at Him for His leadership, she's lovesick.
- 2) She's calling out to the lukewarm ones around her, meaning anyone who will help her find her Beloved. And she says to them *"If you see Him, tell Him I'm not mad at Him, I'm not offended, I'm not questioning His leadership over me, I love Him!"*
- 3) The Lord is watching how she is going to respond when all her dreams and the longing's of her heart are taking away from her. He's wanting to know who she's in this thing for.

V) The Response From The Lukewarm Believers Around Her (SOS 5:9)

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- A) **Song of Songs 5:9** *"What is your Beloved more than another beloved, O fairest among women? What is your Beloved more than another Beloved that you so charge us.?"*
- 1) Because the bride is full of the oil of the Holy Spirit and she responded rightly under pressure with an un-offended heart it caused those around her to ask about her Beloved.
 - 2) Remember, the daughters are luke-warm believers standing on the sideline, though in relationship with God they have yet to receive a revelation. They are asking what separates Him from the many actives (beloveds) in the Church and in life? Why's He so different?
 - 3) The daughters are stunned why she is so in love with this Man, who is seemingly mistreating so badly. They say *"He's taking His presence away from you, and He's allowed the shepherds to strike you and take away your position. Why aren't you offended at Him? What makes Him so different?"*
 - 4) When asked by non-believers and lukewarm Christians why they should love Jesus like we do, could we answer them in such a way that we provoke them to abandon all and join us in our pursuit of the Holy?

VI) The Brides Glorious Response Of The Beauty Of Her Beloved (SOS 5:10-16)

- A) **Song of Songs 5:10-16** *"My Beloved is white and ruddy, Chief among ten thousand. His head is like the finest gold; His locks are wavy, and black as a raven. His eyes are like doves, by the rivers of waters, washed with milk, and fitly set. His cheeks are like a bed of spices, banks of scented herbs. His lips are lilies, dripping liquid myrrh. His hands are rods of gold set with beryl. His body is carved ivory inlaid with sapphires. His legs are pillars of marble set on bases of fine gold. His countenance is like Lebanon, Excellent as the cedars. His mouth is most sweet, yes He is all together lovely. This is my Beloved, and this is my Friend, O daughters of Jerusalem."*
- 1) This is the brides response to the question the daughters ask about what makes Him so different from other beloveds.
- B) *"My Beloved is white and ruddy"* = That word white means glaring, dazzling, bright and sunny. And the word ruddy means red. She was declaring His youthful dual nature (**1st Sam. 16:12; Rev. 21:22**) Jesus is called a Lamb because He was taken out in His youth.
- C) *"He's Chief among ten-thousand"* = She is declaring Him to be Chief among a myriad of people. In the midst of an innumerable amount of people Jesus stands head and shoulders above. This is speaking to His preeminence (**Col. 1:15**).
- D) *"His head is like the finest gold"* = Jesus is head over all things (**Eph. 5:22**) the Bible uses the head to speak of leadership.
- 1) Jesus' leadership or the place from which He makes decisions is of the finest gold. Finest gold speaks of something be refined.

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- (i) In the Chronicles of Narnia the question is asked *"Is he—quite safe?? Safe? (said Mr. Beaver)...Who said anything about safe? Course He isn't safe. But He's good! He's the King I tell you."*
- E) **"His locks are wavy and black as a raven"**—She is saying His hair isn't broken, brittle and decaying but it's wavy and jet black like a raven. She's declaring He's youthful, fully of zeal and well able to help those that come to Him (**Ps. 110: Eph. 3:20**).
- F) **"His eyes are like doves by the rivers of waters, washed with milk, and fitly set"**—He sees rightly with purity and equality. His eyes are fitly set about His head meaning His evaluation of humanity and nations is true. It's perfect (**Rev. 19:11**).
- 1) It's important that we understand the bride is still in the midst of this great two-fold test without His presence and her place of ministry all under Jesus' leadership (eyes).
- G) **"His cheeks are like a bed of spices, banks of scented herbs"**—Jesus' cheeks declare that He's mostly happy and not mad, mostly glad and not sad (**Heb. 1:9**).
- H) **"His lips are like lilies, dripping liquid myrrh"**—Jesus' words are full of purity and divine grace. His words over us, just like the bride empower us to walk through suffering (myrrh) (**Ps. 45:2**).
- I) **"His hands are rods of gold, set with beryl"**—Jesus' hands aren't separated from His head like ours. Our minds often want to do things that our hands refuse to do. But not with Jesus. He uses His hands to create, heal, protect and redeem (**Jn. 8:1-11**).
- J) **"His body is carved ivory inlaid with sapphires"**—Ivory isn't something that's mined, but rather comes only through great pain or death. Jesus' body was broken for us. His body (bowels) or His side was pierced for us (**Jn. 19:34**).
- K) **"His legs are pillars of marble set on bases of fine gold"**—Jesus is upheld by the finest Gold, or a foundation that's eternal. Pillars speak of strength, leadership and orderliness. And marble speaks of beauty that's been forged under great pressure! He's beautiful!
- 1) Remember, the bride is in the midst of the great two-fold test and though her season has changed and she's enduring great difficulty, the foundation of His throne hasn't changed.
- L) **"His countenance is like Lebanon, excellent as the cedars."**—Jesus is pictured as being above all things earthly and demonic, just like the cedars tower over all other trees. He's stately, secure, strong and has a heavenly perspective.
- M) **"His mouth is most sweet, yes, He is all together lovely"**—The bride sums up His physical attributes by saying that **"His mouth is most sweet."** Beyond all that He does and who He is, it's the gracious words He speaks that moves us most!
- N) **"This is my Beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem"**—Oh for the day that the Church would preach Christ, the desire of all nations in the midst of unprecedented trouble and pressure. No presence, no place, but un-offended and lovesick!
- O) She described His head, His hair, His eyes, His cheeks, His lips, His hands, His body, His legs and His overall countenance.