

"The Progression Of Holy Passion"

Session Seven;

Song of Songs 2:8-17

I) Introduction

- A) The past week we looked at the bride's personal revelation of herself (**2:1-2**), her personal revelation of Jesus Christ (**2:3a**), her rest under the shade of His finished work on the Cross (**2:3b**), her invitation from Him to the banqueting house (**2:4**) and the lovesickness that this entire experience created in her (**2:5-7**).
- B) Song of Songs chapter two has what I call "Two Divine's" in it. In **Song of Songs 2:1-7** there is the "Divine Romance" and in **Song of Songs 2:8-17** there is what I call "The Divine Disruption." In this session we are going to look at the "Divine Disruption" of God in the life of the bride as He is calling her to the top of the mountains with Him.

II) The Divine Disruption (2:8-10)

- A) **Song of Songs 2:8-10** *"The voice of my Beloved! Behold He comes leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills. My Beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Behold, He stands behind our wall; He is looking through the windows, gazing through the lattice."*
- B) *"The voice of my Beloved...!"*
- 1) It's here, as the bride is in the place of intimate communion with Jesus, that He breaks into her quiet place with a loud voice of great disruption. As she is in solitude with Him, He speaks to her in such an unusual way.
 - 2) Though the bride is hearing many voices around her, she knows there is one that trumps them all and it's the voice of her Beloved (**John 10:4-5**). Though this voice is very disruptive, she rightly declares that *"it's the voice of her Beloved."*
 - 3) All of God's servants have heard Jesus' voice come to them in a disruptive way. But even though His voice comes with such momentary disruption, if we will follow it and heed it, it will always lead to infinite satisfaction.
- C) *"Behold, He comes leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills. My Beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag."*
- 1) It's not only His voice that disrupts her, but also this new face of Christ that she sees. It's not a new Jesus, but a different facet of the same Jesus that she had never seen before.

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- 2) In Chapter One she encountered the facet of Christ that is like a Shepherd (**1:7**) but now she is encountering the King of all kings. She is seeing the boundless King who conquers all things earthly and demonic. He is bound by nothing.
- 3) This is a mount of Transfiguration moment for her (**Luke 9:27-36**).
 - (i) **Revelation 19:11** *"Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war."*
 - (ii) **Colossians 2:15** *"Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."*
- 4) Jesus isn't only a great romantic, but He's also a King who possess all power and might.
- 5) The mountains and hills here speak of those areas that are difficult, scary and perplexing. It's the challenging areas of ministry and service to others. And it's here we see God in youthful zeal *"...like a gazelle or a young stag"* skipping and leaping, moving effortlessly and unhindered.
 - (i) Gazelles are known to move at speeds of 50 MPH for long periods of time and are able to climb steep hillsides and leap with grace.

III) The Call To Come Away Into Fruitful Partnership With Jesus (2:10-14)

- A) **Song of Songs 2:10-14** *"My beloved spoke, and said to me; rise up my love, my fair one, and come away. For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grapes give a good smell. Rise up, My love, My fair one, and come away! O My dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the cliff let Me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely."*
- B) *"My Beloved spoke, and said to me; rise up my love, my fair one and come away..."*
 - 1) God has spoken to the bride in a disruptive way, but now He is calling her away with Him into the high places where He is dwelling. She is seeing Him not only being in the secret place with her, but also in the high places of ministry to others and before the devil (**Matt.4**).
 - 2) God is raising up a people that don't only live within the Church and in the secret place, but also live in the midst of a dying culture sharing both Christ's life and our own with others.
 - 3) God is calling the bride to come with Him into the place of partnership as He is taking the Gospel to the nations of the earth. He can't have her only in the secret place. He needs her on the tops of mountains with Him.

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- 4) His voice is disruptive, but do you see Him first appealing to her from the foundation of love for her and His view of her? *"Rise up My love, My fair one and come away..."*
- C) *"For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone...the fig tree puts forth her green figs...rise up, my love, my fair one and come away...!"*
- 1) Jesus is appealing to her from their past season in which He has kept her safe in the midst of pressures and difficulties. When she had lost His nearness in chapter one, He restored her and joined her back to Himself, and it's from this season that He is appealing to her.
- (i) Jesus is saying to her *"When you lost My presence, I came to you in your shame and helped you. I have been faithful to you in the past and this is your confidence that I will be faithful to you in the future. Therefore My love, My dove, My perfect one, come away with Me!"*
- 2) Winter is a dark and stormy time in which very few things remain alive. It's a time when the tree's are stripped bare, leaves fall and only a skeleton is left remaining. The fig tree is a winter fruit that hangs on until spring time. It's a fruit that survives the winter of death and persists through the dark season.
- 3) In the natural we know that spring follows winter, but in our spiritual life we easily forget that these dark, wintry seasons eventually come to an end.
- 4) Right now in your life Jesus is trying to build a spiritual and natural history in Him. Without a history in God we don't have confidence to move into our future.
- (i) **Matthew 25:6-9** *"And at midnight a cry was heard, Behold, the bridegroom is coming, go out to meet him! Then all those virgins arose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, give us some of your oil for our lamps are going out. But the wise answered, saying, No, lest there should not be enough for us and you; but go rather to those who sell and buy for yourselves."*
- 5) Nobody else can build your personal history in God but you. You can't buy this from a ministry line, receive it in a prophetic word, read it in a book, learn about it in school, or hear about it at a conference. You must embrace the private and very personal walk with Jesus.

IV) Praying For Deliverance From Compromise (2:15-16)

- A) **Song of Songs 2:15-16** *"Catch us the little foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines, for our vines have tender grapes. My beloved is mine, and I am His. He feeds His flock among the lilies."*
- 1) Because the bride is fearful of going with Jesus back into the place of ministry, on the mountain, she realizes that this fear is a little area that will hinder her future growth.

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- 2) She is rightly asking God to catch her little foxes. She is asking because her grapes are tender, "... vines, for our vines have tender grapes..." This small, budding fruit in her life is precious to her and the Lord. It's not mature fruit in her life, but rather small, budding immature fruit because it's only chapter two of His eight chapter love song.
- 3) She calls the foxes small. Small foxes are different from the lion and the bear. These small foxes come at night, in the early morning when were not watching. They represent areas like money, time management, our private lives, our thought lives and the condition of our hearts. It's the stuff most people never see, only the Lord.
 - (i) **Psalm 139:23** "Search me O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me. And lead me in the way everlasting."
- 4) In order to protect the budding fruit in our lives, we must call out to the Holy Spirit and ask Him to catch those little areas that will spoil our immature fruit hindering it from ever growing into maturity.
 - (i) Remember, this is a progression of holy passion. We are moving forward from a place of immaturity to full maturity in Christ.

V) The Brides Painful Compromise (2:17)

A) **Song of Songs 2:17** "Until the day breaks and the shadows flee away, turn, my Beloved, and be like a gazelle or a young stag upon the mountains of Bether (Separation)."

- 1) It's here that a little fox spoils some of her fruit. It's not large public, scandalous sin that catches her up, it's just fear of the unknown. This fear causes her to tell Him no.
- 2) She is telling Him "until these shadow areas of fear in my heart are dealt with, I am going to stay here, even though Your calling me away. I can't go, but I know that You must move on, so go. Until the day breaks and I have greater victory I am staying here."
- 3) Most of the time our fear of going without or doing what Jesus has asked us to do is actually greater than going without or actually doing it. That fear grips our hearts and paralyzes us.
- 4) When God asks us to do something, He never leaves us without the grace to do it. When He asked Peter to walk on water He helped Him **(Matt. 14:28-30)**. When He asked Peter to cast his net to the other side, He helped him **(Luke 5)**.
- 5) The safest place with God is in 100% obedience. It's safer on the mountain tops where great pressure is, than it is in the secret place if Jesus isn't there. It's safer on the water than it is in the boat if Jesus isn't there.