**Encountering Bridal Intimacy**

***Poem 1- Birth of Intimacy, Birth of Identity***

1. ***Jesus fervently desires you***

***Draw me into your heart. (SoS 1:4a)***

Jesus here is requiring a pursuit that He fully understands is difficult. He Knows that you alone do not have the sustainable power to seek Him.

Jesus says in Mt 26:41 ***The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak***.”

So HE reveals Himself to us through the Holy Spirit in such a marvelous way that can seem unreal. But it is that majestic display of His Love that draws us to who Jesus is and if we explore that hunger, we will then find that the power that only He can generate through the Holy Spirit will take us on a beautiful Journey.

Watchmen Nee says *“It is the attracting power of Jesus Himself which alone creates the continuous power to so seek and so run”*

1. **Jesus invite you into intimate fellowship**

***We will run away together into the king’s cloud-filled chamber.[***[***h***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3234h)***] We will remember your love, rejoicing and delighting in you,[***[***i***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3234i)***]   celebrating your every kiss as better than wine. No wonder righteousness adores you![***[***j***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3234j)***] (SoS 1:4b)***

Here the Father is inviting you into a secret place. This is not sexual, this is deep revelation. This is beyond the confines of sex, a toy can never fix another toy, the toymaker is the one with the tools and imagination to fix. And this is talking about the toy maker sharing His imagination and who He is with his toy.

Ps 91:1 says ***“When you abide under the shadow of Shaddai,you are hidden[***[***b***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+91&version=TPT#fen-TPT-1372b)***] in the strength of God Most High.”***

Shaddai root word in Hebrew has many expressions, God of the Mountain, God the destroyer of enemies, God the Self Sufficient One, God the nurturer , God the Almighty

the word hidden implies enduring through the night and it is the same Hebrew word used in Job 39:28 where an eagle passed the night on the high cliffs

This is the secret place, and is synomonus with the bridal chamber, a place that is protected and hidden.

The enemy cannot see the transformation your heart goes through when we say YES to Him, all the enemy sees is what you walk in after you have been made new.

1. **His desired Identity for you**

As we read this listen to the words, the dialogue and find yourself in it. This is a dialogue between a King and a Bride….Between Jesus and His bride, Between Jesus and You

### Jesus is looking to draw out His bride

### The Shulamite

***5Jerusalem maidens, in this twilight darkness****(black)****I know I am so unworthy—so in need.***

This is an indulgence to the things on the world, the things of the red clay Adam. She is black because of the sin in her life.

### The Shepherd-King

***Yet you are so lovely!***

### The Shulamite

***I feel as dark and dry as the desert tents   of the wandering nomads***. ( Tents of Kedar, meaning dark one or dark place, also the name of the son of Ishmael and represents our old Adam-life)

### The Shepherd-King

    Yet you are so lovely—
    like the fine linen tapestry hanging in the Holy Place.

**The Shulamite to Her Friends**

***6Please don’t stare in scorn  because of my dark and sinful ways.[***[***m***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3236m)***] My angry brothers quarreled with me and appointed me guardian of their ministry vineyards,  yet I’ve not tended my vineyard within.*** (Shame, fear and control take sit place) ***7Won’t you tell me, lover of my soul,  where do you feed your flock?  Where do you lead your beloved ones to rest in the heat of the day?*** (She sees her beloved as a shepherd, not in a literal story but in the way we today see Jesus as the Great Shepherd)***Why should I be like a veiled woman as I wander among the flocks of your shepherds?***

**The Shepherd-King**

***8Listen, my radiant one— if you ever lose sight of me, just follow in my footsteps where I lead my lovers. Come with your burdens and cares. Come to the place near the sanctuary of my shepherds.
9My dearest one,[***[***q***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3239q)***]let me tell you how I see you—you are so thrilling to me. To gaze upon you is like looking at one of Pharaoh’s finest horses[***[***r***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3239r)***]— a strong, regal steed pulling his royal chariot.
10Your tender cheeks are beautiful[***[***s***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3240s)***]—your earrings and gem-laden necklaces[***[***t***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3240t)***] set them ablaze. 11We will enhance your beauty,[***[***u***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3241u)***]with golden ornaments studded with silver.[***[***v***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3241v)***]***

The mystery of our faith is that we are dark in our heart, yet we are so lovely to Him.

The tension between the darkness of our hearts and how beautiful we are to Him must be held on too to grasp our relationship.

We need Him so much and He wants us to make us perfect.

And in this weakness we just read about, God still calls us lovely for 4 reasons:

-The Father’s personality- He loves us and possess and sees us through His daddy eyes

-The gift or righteousness- ***21For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Cor 5:21)***  we receive His beauty in union with Him

-A willing Spirit- sincerity, and obedience is beautiful to Him

***4rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the [***[***a***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Peter+3&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-30429a)***]incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. (1Pet 3:4)***

***-***Our eternal destiny- the last phrase in v. 11 reveals a redemptive story to last for eternity.

Silver in the bible always indicates redemption, because it was 30 pieces of silver that led to the cross and set us all free from sin and death.

1. ***Understanding her identity***

### The Shulamite

***12As the king surrounded me at his table*** ( His banqueting table***)  the sweet fragrance of spikenard  awakened the night.13A sachet of myrrh is my lover, like a tied-up bundle of myrrh[***[***y***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3243y)***] resting over my heart 14He is like a bouquet of henna blossoms—henna plucked near the vines at the fountain of the Lamb.[***[***z***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3244z)***]   I will hold him and never let him part.***

Notice what Solomon uses here in the description of the Bride realizing who she is…

a banqueting table, spikenard and myrrh, and myrrh resting over my heart. and the fountain of the Lamb?

The table is a sign of communion, spikenard is what Martha used to anoint Jesus’ feet before His death, Myrrh is what us used to cover the smell of death and its placed over your heart, and in most versions of the bible it says “Vineyards of En-Gedi”, which means fountain of the lamb, and the word “henna” has a homonym that means atonement or redeeming grace

***The Shepherd-King***

***15My darling, you are so lovely! You are beauty itself[***[***aa***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3245aa)***] to me. Your passionate eyes are like gentle doves.[***[***ab***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3245ab)***]***

The Hebrew word for “beautiful,” *yāpāh*, is used five times to describe the Shulamite, and three times she is called *hayyāpāh bannāšîm* (the most beautiful of women). Eight times her beauty is extolled. Eight is the number for new creation life. Hebrew linguists link this word for “beauty” to *yapha’*, which means “to radiate,” “to burst forth,” or “to emerge from darkness to project beauty.” It is also related to the word *yaphat*, which means “to create a sense of awe and wonder” or “to be something special.” When we trace this word *yāpāh* to its Semitic roots, we find it has the idea of a specialness or a uniqueness.

***25If the Spirit is the source of our life, we must also allow the Spirit to direct every aspect of our lives. 26So may we never be arrogant, or look down on another, for each of us is an original. We must forsake all jealousy that diminishes the value of others.(Gal 5:25,26)***

I love this verse it perfectly speaks to verse 15. Paul says that we are each an original. which speaks to the uniqueness and specialness we have in His eyes, and in verse 25 Paul shows us the role the Holy Spirit has in our lives.

That speaks to the last sentence in v15. He sees that your eyes are like gentle doves. A dove is representative to the Holy Spirit, and He is calling out a transformation from black as in verse 6, to transformed eyes by the Spirit.

And this is not far-fetched because Solomon learned from the one man who got the closest to the Spirit of God in the OT…King David. He learned intimacy form his father for the Father.

**The Shulamite**

***16My beloved one,[***[***ac***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3246ac)***]  both handsome and winsome, you are pleasing beyond words.  Our resting place[***[***ad***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3246ad)***] is anointed and flourishing, like a green forest meadow bathed in light.
17Rafters of cedar branches are over our heads and balconies of pleasant-smelling pines.[***[***ae***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Solomon+1&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3247ae)***]***

The bride has arrived in that place called “Rest” and it with the person she who makes her love boil over…that is the literal translation of “Beloved”

*“Green pastures are beds for sheep, therefore to lie down in them is to have sweet rest” W. Nee*

***2He lets me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside [***[***a***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+23&version=NASB#fen-NASB-14238a)***]quiet waters. (Ps 23:2)***

1. **She realizes her identity**

**2 *I am truly his rose, the very theme of his song.[***[***a***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song%20of%20Songs%202&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3248a)***] I’m overshadowed by his love,
    like a lily growing in the valley!***

what a beautiful transformation we see here, The King in v. 15 see the deep beauty in His Bride, and calls forth the Holy Spirits involvement in the metamorphosis of her spirit.

She replies to the one she loves with an intensity rooted in love and in that love finds a place where rest occurs…..I am thinking that rest is the transformation chamber…it is where our heart becomes like His heart.

Then in Ch 2 V. 1…….in a new bridal identity…she calls herself the Rose of Sharon….Jesus is not the rose of Sharon, it is the bride.

She declares He sings over me, Sharon can be translated at “His Song” and Rose as “overshadowed”

### *The Shepherd-King*

***2Yes, you are my darling companion. You stand out from all the rest. For though the thorns[***[***b***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song%20of%20Songs%202&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3249b)***] surround you,  you remain as pure as a lily,[***[***c***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song%20of%20Songs%202&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3249c)***]  more than all others.***

As the King reaffirms her in her realization, so does the Father through the Holy Spirit affirm you. Those sweet whispers of the Spirit, those ahhh haaa realizations you have that bring a euphoric feeling of bliss…that is what is happens here.

### The Shulamite

***3My beloved is to me the most fragrant apple tree—he stands above the sons of men.[***[***d***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song%20of%20Songs%202&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3250d)***]
    Sitting under his grace-shadow,   I blossom in his shade, enjoying the sweet taste of his pleasant, delicious fruit, resting with delight where his glory never fades.***

One of my favorite verses, the bride in this journey takes up comparison between the King and sinners. And in wisdom she recounts her journey…

A shade, a delight, a rest, and a taste

***4Suddenly, he transported me into his house of wine—   he looked upon me with his unrelenting love divine.[***[***e***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song%20of%20Songs%202&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3251e)***]***

He brought me to the [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Songs+2&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-17559a)]banqueting house, And his banner over me was love.

Here she and you are assimilating into sonship.

***5Revive me with your raisin cakes.[***[***f***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song%20of%20Songs%202&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3252f)***]*** (given by King David to celebrate the presence of God, also the w=Hebrew word for raisin cakes also means fire) ***Refresh me again with your apples.***(these are the sweet promises of grace)***Help me and hold me, for I am lovesick! I am longing for more—yet how could I take more?***

Wounded by Love is the goal…. many of us have been wounded by love in an earthly manner and it hurts and its compounding in a sinful way, and it eliminates the ability to have another successful love relationship…

With Jesus, His love is ever increasing, it’s a woundeness to want more of perfect Love, so you not only demand perfect Love from others but you freely give it.

***6His left hand[***[***i***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song%20of%20Songs%202&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3253i)***] cradles my head while his right hand[***[***j***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song%20of%20Songs%202&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3253j)***] holds me close.    I am at rest in this love.***

### The Shepherd-King

***7Promise me, Jerusalem maidens,
    by the gentle gazelles and delicate deer,[***[***k***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Song+of+Songs+2&version=TPT#fen-TPT-3254k)***]
    that you’ll not disturb my love until she is ready to arise.***

This is a call to rest…not to be overburden by the legalism that has tainted Heavens supposed expression on earth

In this poem we saw three things:

1. an invitation into the heart of the Father, not the full reality of it, just a taste
2. was the weight of sin in our lives that leaves the bride exhausted
3. submission to Jesus that leads to rest and more to come.