**Encountering Bridal Intimacy**

***Poem 3- Growing Love Part 2: Solidification Songs 4:7 – 5:1***

1. **Review**

It takes complete denial not to see oneself in Song of Solomon. The journey here not describes some woman, but it describes the stages of intimacy in covenant in a sinful world that lead to fullness.

This is not a ploy, or some new Christian Fad, this is the only way to God’s Heart and into Fullness. Songs of Solomon is the scientific method to the Gospels and into Christ’s heart.

In brief recap….

In encountering Him, that Journey while unique for the individual, which is primarily based on our choices, we all face a common enemy. So while each journey is its own fairytale beautiful storyline is unique, it all boils down to choices. The very thing we overcome while they may seem so very different person to person, the choosing of Him and the letting go of what we have become accustom too is the same challenge we all face.

Identity and Surrender are the key issues these poems allude to, while He calls out your beauty.

The initial inability to escape yourself, your fears, even to the point you trust your fear than the chance of real life. *{How twisted is that, sin such a spiritual engulfing agent, that even if you see the light to freedom, you feel stuck and you come to terms with your present situation (out of fear) that will eventually lead you to the place you fear the most (death) talk about a bad used car salesman rip-off story}*

In this lies the struggle, the leap of faith to Trust Jesus, when all your life trust has been broken.

Right here we stop, because Most Christians in one way or another are stuck here, and if they have moved on, we revisit this place often.

This is called ***Unbelief,*** and what it reveals is the measure of ***Surrender*** we truly have given Jesus

**SLIDE**

***11For no one can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 12Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, 13each one’s work will become evident; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and the fire itself will test [***[***e***](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28411e)***]the quality of each one’s work. 14If anyone’s work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. 15If anyone’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet only so as through fire. (1 Cor 3:11-14)***

This verse to me, as I see it is that a Lover of Jesus can truly spend their entire life on earth in this stage, and experience bits and pieces of Fullness, but be robbed by fear in the inability to truly Trust and have faith in the promises of our Savior Jesus.

Surrendering is also a process, not a light switch, but the Father sees our hearts and at the first sign of surrender…..

we see a Wedding. And in His vows to you the first thing He promises and prophesies over you is having Eyes that see in the Spirit.

1. **The Call to Fullness**

***SLIDE***

***7“You are altogether beautiful, my darling, And there is no blemish on you.
8Come with me from Lebanon, my bride, You shall come with me from Lebanon. You shall come down from the summit of Amana, From the summit of Senir and Hermon,
From the dens of lions, From the mountains of leopards. (Songs 4:7,8)***

V7- The Call is My King, Your King speaking us into upward Spiritual movement. He is declaring over your life that your choosing Him a complete paradigm shift, you went from sinner to saint, from a heavy burden and a unattainable yoke, to a light burden and an easy yoke.

And His choosing you makes you blemish free, makes you chaste!!

V8- Here we see a quick recap….it is not quickly noticed. Many years of Holy Spirit revelation, and over many centuries brings these things to the surface.

*First we see He would have her rise up out of her circumstance, and second, go along with Him in His circumstance.*

**SLIDE**

**The Summit of Amana**

*This phrase is translated from the Septuagint. The Hebrew is “the crest of Amana”. Amana comes from a Hebrew root word from which we get the English word “Amen”. This is also one of the Hebrew words for “faith”. The Crest of Amana is the realm where all God’s promises are kept and realized. Amana can also be translated “a place of settled security”*

*(Dictionary of Scripture Proper Names by J.B. Jackson)*

What a beautiful picture, it truly is a fairytale. The description, this is not for narrative purposes, the Father used Solomon to write this down for all mankind to see His goodness, His faithfulness, and to help our imagination guide us to Him.

This is why we the faith of a child, to sit here and imagine that in our walk, He is faithful in how He comes through for us over and over again.

And if we just grasp that and take a hold of His never ceasing love for us,

we can imagine that we are in that place, in our spiritual realm along our journey to fullness, where all of God’s promises and kept and realized. We are in a place of settled security.

It is in that place, on that solid ground that we can firmly, without shaking, say I do not Love my life unto death, Death where is your victory, Death where is your Sting….

because I stand on the rock that my God is the first fruits of the resurrection, and I will have eternal life right alongside my Jesus

***From the summit of Senir and Hermon, From the dens of lions, From the mountains of leopards***

This is another beautiful metaphor of victory in the Spiritual Life in Covenant with Him.

See from the Summit of any mountain we have a view and a position that is not had at the starting point.

From a position on “High” ,our sanctuary, in the Kingdom, we can look upon all creation. To look means to survey, inspect, look around and observe.

Since we are seated with Christ and we are encouraged to survey all of His Blessings.

This is a picture of co-exaltation with Christ

**SLIDE**

***9You have enchanted (ravished) my heart, my sister, my bride; You have enchanted (ravished) my heart with a single glance of your eyes, With a single strand of your necklace. (Songs 4:9)***

My Sister my Spouse--- He is calling her (You) here at this point His Equal/His Covenant Partner

Now this is partly due to lifting us up, but here the King is not mincing words, He is not speaking forth what will happening.

You do not get ravished by something to come. It is quite provocative that such a word is used here, because the word ravish implies deep emotional explosion, and it is used in both a negative and positive sense.

Ravish can only be implied in the past and present. Its meaning in its simplest form *is to be seize to take away by violence ; to be overcome by emotion*

The Father used the word ravished, as controversial as that word can be, because the sight of you choosing Him is enough for Him to call this ,experiment with Sin, finished and unleash perfect love and perfect judgement on this earth.

He is that moved by the countenance on your face, when you surrender and marry Him.

So why is He not speaking forth when He calls you His sister/equal?

Because He can see in your heart that you are now ready for Him to share everything. We are beyond ordinary, maturing and purity start to flourish and you are now capable of conjugal relationship

1. **Intimate Relationship**

**SLIDE**

**10How beautiful is your love, my sister, *my* bride! How much sweeter is your love than wine, And the fragrance of your oils Than *that of* all *kinds of* balsam oils! 11Your lips drip honey, *my* bride; Honey and milk are under your tongue, And the fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon.12A locked garden is my sister, *my* bride, A locked spring, a sealed fountain.13Your branches are an orchard of pomegranates With delicious fruits, henna with nard plants,14Nard and saffron, spice reed and cinnamon, With all the trees of frankincense, Myrrh, and aloes, along with all the finest balsam oils. 15*You are* a garden spring, A well of fresh water, And flowing *streams* from Lebanon.” (Songs4:10-15)**

**10How beautiful is your love, my sister, *my* bride! How much sweeter is your love than wine, And the fragrance of your oils Than *that of* all *kinds of* balsam oils!**

This is where metamorphosis takes place. we are now in a place where our heart begins to become like His heart.

In Ch 1, the Bride tell Him that ***His love is better than wine***. It’s an external expression that she makes by His approach to her.

There is no commitment other than she knows what He has, she wants.

Here in V.10 He tells her that **How much sweeter is your love than wine.** That comes through experience, through a relation.

You see the same reference with **fragrance**. The point is the effect.

Moses face shined after time with God, it has nothing to do with what physical phenomenon occurs to make a face shine, it is the external value that is expressed from an internal source.

He points out her fragrance is better than all other oils

**11Your lips drip honey, *my* bride; Honey and milk are under your tongue, And the fragrance of your garments is like the fragrance of Lebanon**

Honey is not produced in a day, likewise transformation in a process of yielding, surrendering, dying our daily deaths in humility.

There are a few cool references here,

 not only is honey dripping from your lips, which shows heart transforming to be like His heart,

Milk and Honey under your tongue speak to the abundance of where that comes from.

But also to the Promise Land. Remember the Promise land is also referred to the land of “Milk and Honey” Implying that our intimacy with Him makes our hearts His residence.

**12A locked garden is my sister, *my* bride, A locked spring, a sealed fountain.13Your branches are an orchard of pomegranates With delicious fruits, henna with nard plants,14Nard and saffron, spice reed and cinnamon, With all the trees of frankincense, Myrrh, and aloes, along with all the finest balsam oils. 15*You are* a garden spring, A well of fresh water, And flowing *streams* from Lebanon.”**

Notice there mention of garden twice and an Orchard.

After the creation of the Universe and of man, God created a Garden. A garden is not common ground and you do not plant in random. And its not for mere agricultural purposes.

Gardens are expressions of beauty and pleasure. There may be trees but not for wood. There are fruits but its value has nothing to do with how much money will it yield.

A gardens #1 objective is to FLOWER and BLOSSOM, and together its BEAUTIFUL and EXOTIC

This is figurative language to our spiritual position of delight and satisfaction unto the Lord.