Song of Solomon / Conclusion

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~ The fifth and final canticle in the Song of Solomon is an antiphone that begins in chapter five and runs through the remainder of the collection. It is the longest and the most important song of the five. In our last report from our Spiritual Safari, we saw the Shulamite girl go out to look for her shepherd on the dangerous city streets; where she encountered the daughters of Jerusalem. She asked them about him. They were cynical and skeptical as they answered her question with a question, saying, ".... who is he to you?" and ".... forget about him — all men are alike." Well, she doesn't think that way, according to her description of Him in the intimate terms of verses six through the end of chapter five....

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~ One thing that becomes evident in chapter five is that she knew her shepherd. I suggest you read this entire chapter now; from your own Bible. I have intentionally left the text out. If you are going to be an effective witness for Christ, it will be necessary that you know Him. That means an intimate affair of the heart, friends. We have to love His Word and strive to get His Word taught to the entire world properly, correctly and completely. Only then can we serve God and do His work with enthusiasm and true joy. Our salvation is not some sterile business transaction whereby God buys fish on a barrelhead. We don't glorify Christ by worshiping Him and lifting Him up in His death, burial and resurrection nearly as much as we should. I am sure we do not physically bow in thanksgiving before the altar and throne of Christ enough. Try it sometime. Jesus is wonderful — any which way we decide to look at Him. Jesus came to this world as just another face in the crowd. One cannot take a more humble place than that. He said He was among us as One Who serveth....

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- 1 (Daughters of Jerusalem) Whither is thy beloved gone, O thou fairest among women? whither is thy beloved turned aside? that we may seek him with thee.
- 2 (Church) My beloved is gone down into his garden, to the beds of spices, to feed in the gardens, and to gather lilies.
- 3 (Church) I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine: he feedeth among the lilies.
- 4 (Christ) Thou art beautiful, O my love, as Tirzah, comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army with banners.
- 5 (Christ) Turn away thine eyes from me, for they have overcome me: thy hair is as a flock of goats that appear from Gilead.
- 6 (Christ) Thy teeth are as a flock of sheep which go up from the washing, whereof every one beareth twins, and there is not one barren among them.
- 7 (Christ) As a piece of a pomegranate are thy temples within thy locks.
- 8 (Christ) There are threescore queens, and fourscore concubines, and virgins without number.
- 9 (Christ) My dove, my undefiled is but one; she is the only one of her mother, she is the choice one of her that bare her. The daughters saw her, and blessed her; yea, the queens and the concubines, and they praised her.
- 10 (Christ) Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?
- 11 (Christ) I went down into the garden of nuts to see the fruits of the valley, and to see whether the vine flourished, and the pomegranates budded.

12 (Christ) - Or ever I was aware, my soul made me like the chariots of Amminadib.

13 (Christ) - Return, return, O Shulamite; return, return, that we may look upon thee. What will ye see in the Shulamite? As it were the company of two armies.

~ Whatever suffers or hurts is what Jesus touches with His compassion and healing mercy. Whosoever will turn to Him He will always love. Jesus never sought out those who deserved healing; because none of them deserved anything. A multitude in Jesus day had no shepherd; another multitude of five thousand were hungry. There was a sorrowing widow whose only son had died. And there was the demonic man that lived among the tombs in Gadarene. Those are the ones who moved Jesus' compassion. Christ led, fed, healed and restored life to the dead; freeing them all from satanic possession.

Jesus' very wrath against the scribes and Pharisees was but the excess of His available pity, mercy and compassion for those who had suffered under hardened Sanhedrin oppression. The hearts of the religious rulers were purely self-righteous. While there is grace in His nature, the Pharisees were stealing from the Lord. Those who steal from the Lord are planning a coup — with Satan. Those who reject the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior are simple-minded, proud pious pygmies with a stone-cold murderous heart. They always make a self-proclamation of being sinlessly perfect superduper saints — but they ain't.

Fundamentalists, naturally, tend to view the rapture of the church from our side of the event. That is, the Lord Himself shall come from Heaven with a shout. The voice of the trump of Christ shall call His Own. Well, the other side is the church entering into His presence where the angelic host shall be rejoicing; yet being judged, also! We're told in Ephesians chapter two that, "....in the ages to come, He might show the exceeding riches of His grace and His kindness towards us through Christ Jesus." We're going to be on display to the world as Christ's treasure for His glory — and for our good forevermore. Not a single one of us are worthy to be there – but we will be there! Why? — Because He loves us. Why did God love Andrew C. Hunt? I

have no idea. God didn't get much when He saved me, friends – but I got everything. This is a curtain into eternity the Lord is pulling back.
Remember, when Rebecca came back with the servant of Abraham to meet Isaac, he was walking in the field. She lighted off of the camel and ran to him.

Jesus didn't even have to touch any of the lepers or blind men – He could have healed them with a simple whispered word; as He did in restoring life to the nobleman's son. One leper had been cut off completely from society and was an outcast. He had lost all sense of being a man. It was a personal defilement just to approach him. Jesus restored his humanity as well as physically healing him. I can only hope and pray that your hard heart is softened, and that this Spiritual Safari is opening up the Word of God to you....

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- 1 (Christ) How beautiful are thy feet with shoes, O prince's daughter! the joints of thy thighs are like jewels, the work of the hands of a cunning workman.
- 2 (Christ) Thy navel is like a round goblet, which wanteth not liquor: thy belly is like an heap of wheat set about with lilies.
- 3 (Christ) Thy two breasts are like two young roes that are twins.
- 4 (Christ) Thy neck is as a tower of ivory; thine eyes like the fishpools in Heshbon, by the gate of Bathrabbim: thy nose is as the tower of Lebanon which looketh toward Damascus.
- 5 (Christ) Thine head upon thee is like Carmel, and the hair of thine head like purple; the king is held in the galleries.
- 6 (Christ) How fair and how pleasant art thou, O love, for delights!
- 7 (Christ) This thy stature is like to a palm tree, and thy breasts to clusters of grapes.

- 8 (Christ) I said, I will go up to the palm tree, I will take hold of the boughs thereof: now also thy breasts shall be as clusters of the vine, and the smell of thy nose like apples;
- 9 (Christ) And the roof of thy mouth like the best wine for my beloved, that goeth down sweetly, causing the lips of those that are asleep to speak.
- 10 (Church) I am my beloved's, and his desire is toward me.
- 11 (Church) Come, my beloved, let us go forth into the field; let us lodge in the villages.
- 12 (Church) Let us get up early to the vineyards; let us see if the vine flourish, whether the tender grape appear, and the pomegranates bud forth: there will I give thee my loves.
- 13 (Church) The mandrakes give a smell, and at our gates are all manner of pleasant fruits, new and old, which I have laid up for thee, O my beloved.

VIII

- 1 (Church) O that thou wert as my brother, that sucked the breasts of my mother! when I should find thee without, I would kiss thee; yea, I should not be despised.
- 2 (Church) I would lead thee, and bring thee into my mother's house, who would instruct me: I would cause thee to drink of spiced wine of the juice of my pomegranate.
- 3 (Church) His left hand should be under my head, and his right hand should embrace me.
- 4 (Church) I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, until he please.

5 (Christ) - Who is this that cometh up from the wilderness, leaning upon her beloved? I raised thee up under the apple tree: there thy mother brought thee forth: there she brought thee forth that bare thee.

6 (Christ) - Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame.

7 (Christ) - Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.

8 (Church) - We have a little sister, and she hath no breasts: what shall we do for our sister in the day when she shall be spoken for?

9 (Christ) - If she be a wall, we will build upon her a palace of silver: and if she be a door, we will inclose her with boards of cedar.

10 (Church) - I am a wall, and my breasts like towers: then was I in his eyes as one that found favour.

11 (Church) - Solomon had a vineyard at Baalhamon; he let out the vineyard unto keepers; every one for the fruit thereof was to bring a thousandpieces of silver.

12 (Church) - My vineyard, which is mine, is before me: thou, O Solomon, must have a thousand, and those that keep the fruit thereof two hundred.

13 (Church) - Thou that dwellest in the gardens, the companions hearken to thy voice: cause me to hear it.

14 (Church) - Make haste, my beloved, and be thou like to a roe or to a young hart upon the mountains of spices ~

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