



Contemplations on the Song of Songs **I**II DE IT NEELEN NEE WISHT

Love Better than Wine

Written by: Gerges Gad St. Mary & Archangel Michael Church, Houston, TX

Introduction

Among the Poetic Books of the Holy Bible, hidden like a precious treasure, is a book known as the "Song of Songs of Solomon". What is the story of this Holy Book, and what is the theme of it? Many people do not study this Holy Book, claiming it is difficult to understand, and very symbolic. Some even wonder why is it included in the Holy Bible.

Let us take a closer look at this beautiful Holy Book and see what the Holy Spirit wishes to teach us.

The Writer:

The writer of this Holy Book is King Solomon. He had written many songs: "He spoke three thousand proverbs, and his songs were one thousand and five." (1King 4:32) However, this Holy Book is the "song of songs"; i.e. the "cream of the crop". The entire Holy Book is but one beautiful poem.

Characteristics:

This Holy Book is very deep. It unveils for us the depth of the God's Philanthropy (love of mankind). It portrays how much God searches for man's soul to offer Himself to him, so that His beauty reflects off him, and he is filled and joyful to the end.

It is a commune between the Lord and His bride; between the Beloved and His Church; between the Lord Jesus Christ and the human soul, that living member of Church, His Body. This Holy Book is a beautiful musical masterpiece that moves the strings of the soul.

It is a symbol of the true prayer, where there is no routine or customary diction, but rather a deep communion between God and the soul, without "veils" or "rituals". In it, God reveals Himself to her, and also reveals her. He speaks openly to her, and she to Him. She converses her love to Him, communes His love and her longing for Him, informs Him about her "blackness" and her unworthiness for Him, and about her pains and sufferings. It is a private colloquy between two betrothed lovers speaking openly about all that is in their hearts. This is the true understanding of prayer and worship.

The Church Fathers called this Holy Book "The Holy of Holies of the Holy Bible"; it is difficult to be understood by the beginners. The Holy Books of Solomon gradually lifts the spirit from the earthly matters to the Heavenly:

- +The Holy Book of Proverbs is presented to the "toddlers" in faith, so that they may understand their need to attain Wisdom (The Lord Jesus Christ) in this life, lest they go astray: "To know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, judgment, and equity." (Proverbs 1:2-3)
- + In the Holy Book of Ecclesiastes, after the believer seeks wisdom, he discovers the one single truth about the pettiness of the world: "All is vanity and grasping for the wind." (Ecclesiastes 1:14)
- + In the Holy Song of Songs, the believer realizes that it is not sufficient to despise the world and rid the heart of its desires, but he must now fill it with the Lord Jesus Christ: "My beloved is mine, and I am His." (Song 2:16)

This Holy Book is a release of the soul into the Heavens. So, let us start our journey into this Love that is "better than wine."