



Contemplations on the Song of Songs

ΠΙΨΑΕ ΙΤ ΝΨΕΛΛΟΙ ΝΤΕ ΨΙΨΗΤ

Love Better than Wine

Part 2: "Draw me away"

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(1:2) Let Him kiss me with the kisses of His mouth: for Your love is better than wine.

The savor of the love of the Lord Jesus Christ has a special attractive force. It attracts criminals, sinners, and those who have fallen. On the Holy Cross, He demonstrated His Love as He said,

"And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself." (John 12:32).

The first of those drawn up was the thief on the right:

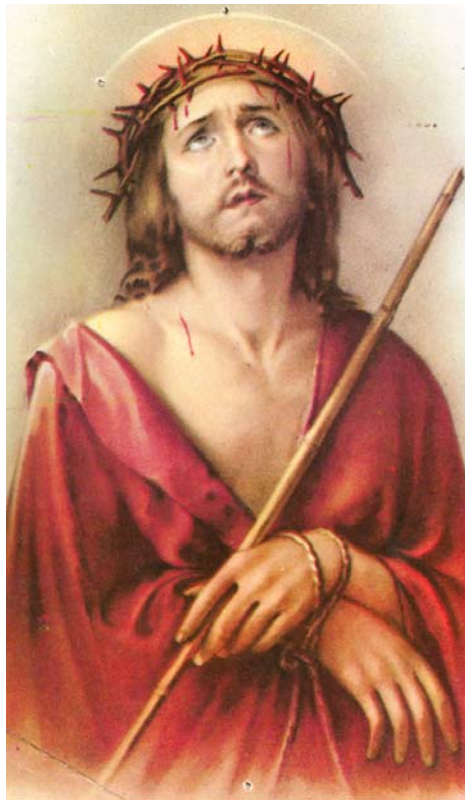
"And Jesus said to him, Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43)

He who drinks of wine and becomes drunk, is not aware of anything else. Likewise, those who are drunk with the Love of the Lord Jesus Christ leave everything and follow Him:

"... Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee." (Mark 10:28)

Those who taste the Lord Jesus Christ, ignore all the problems and afflictions of the world, and belittle its desire and pleasures:

"Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the



excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ." (Philippians 3:8)

(1:3) Because of the fragrance of Your good ointments, Your name is ointment poured forth; Therefore the virgins love You.

The sweet savor of the ointments of the Lord Jesus Christ's love disseminated with great power when His Blood was shed upon the Holy Cross.

"This is He Who presented Himself up on the Cross, an acceptable Sacrifice, for the salvation of our race. And His

Good Father inhaled His sweet aroma on Golgotha in the evening." (Hymn of the Cross - ΦΑΙ ΕΤΑϞ ΕΝϞ - on Good Friday)

"And, having made peace through the blood of His Cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself." (Colossians 1:20)

"And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a



sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.” (Ephesians 5:2)

As soon as the Lord Jesus Christ offered His poured Blood as a dowry for His betrothed, all the (wise) virgins gathered around Him with their shining lamps, ready to meet the Bridegroom, in a deep mystery of Love.

“Then the Kingdom of Heaven shall be likened to ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. And those who were ready went in with him to the wedding.” (Matthew 25:1-10)

St. Paul assures us saying, *“I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.” (2 Corinthians 11:2)*

The virgin is in a state of purity and holiness, as she consecrates all her heart and mind to her betrothed, even during sleep, else, she is not worthy of becoming his bride.

The Shulamite:
(1:4) Draw me away!



The Samaritan Woman
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The Daughters of Jerusalem:
We will run after You.

The Shulamite:
The King has brought me into His chambers.
The Daughters of Jerusalem:
We will be glad and rejoice in You. We will remember Your love more than wine.

The Shulamite:
Rightly do they love You.

Despite her love and longing for her Beloved, the Shulamite (human soul) is unable to walk and follow the Lord Jesus Christ on her own. This is due to all the bonds of sins, desires, and the world.

Therefore, she entreats Him to **“Draw her,”** and save her from these bonds. Truly, without prayers and supplications to the Lord, the person is unable to follow the Lord Jesus Christ on his own: *“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him...” (John 6:44)*

As she is drawn to Him, she doesn't follow him alone, but rather her and her sisters (we will run after you). When Levi met the Lord Jesus Christ, all his “associates” came and met the Lord Jesus



Christ as well: “As He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, ‘ Follow Me.’ So he arose and followed Him. Now it happened, as He was dining in Levi’s house that many tax collectors and sinners also sat together with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many, and they followed Him.” (Mark 2:14-15)

The Samaritan woman left her water jar to go and tell the people about the Lord Jesus Christ: *“The woman then left her water pot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, ‘ Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?’ Then they went out of the city and came to Him.”* (John 4:28-30)

St. Philip also could not keep the good news to himself:

“Philip found Nathaniel and said to him, ‘ We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.’ ”(John 1:45)

No one who has tasted the goodness of the Lord can stand to see his brethren suffer. He actively seeks their salvation, in all the power of love, praying continuously for their salvation.

“The King has brought me into His chambers.”

When the human soul seeks the grace of God, immediately, He draws her from the midst of the weights of the body, and brings her into His Chambers (inner room), where it can enjoy the

most beautiful encounter with her Bridegroom.

“We will be glad and rejoice in You”

When she meets with Him, her heart is filled with joy. She has experienced true gladness. She understood now why those who live with Him love Him so much, with no limits: *Then Paul answered, “What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”* (Acts 21:13)

“Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.” (Psalm 34:8)

He has restored joy to her, after she had lost it for a long time. Ever since Adam dared to commit the sin before God, sorrow has filled the entire creation. Man has hid himself from the presence of God, his source of life: *“And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.”* (Genesis 3:8)

But now, joy has returned to her even if she is in the midst of sufferings and temptations:

“My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials.” (James 1:2)

It’s no wonder that we see St. Paul writing to the Philippians from the prison saying, *“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!”* (Philippians 4:4)✠