



Love Better Than Wine

Contemplations on the Song of Songs

Part 4: "In the vineyards of En Gedi"

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1:9 I have compared you, my love, To my filly among Pharaoh's chariots.

The first blessings that Christ bestows on His flock, is the one spirit: one heart, one thought, one aim. "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Eph 4:4-5). They will be like the many horses of the one chariot, all working together, heading one way: towards the Heavenly Jerusalem.

Jesus did not eradicate His disciples' characters, but rather gave each one of them a special gift. Put together, all these gifts work towards one goal, without any interference or alienation.

1:10 Your cheeks are lovely with ornaments, Your neck with chains of gold.

Christ sees an exceptional beauty in His bride. In the adulteress woman, He noticed in her heart His love. In the crucified thief, He observed his faith, which surpassed the faith of the disciples.

"Do not let your adornment be merely outward - arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel - rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God." (1Pet 3:3-4)

"The royal daughter is all glorious within the palace." (Psa 45:13)

The Daughters of Jerusalem)

1:10 We will make you ornaments of gold With studs of silver.

Christ sees the virtues of His saints, and the beauty of their lives. He praises and honors them, even though He is the One who granted them these virtues. He sees that her bride's cheeks are beautified "with rows of jewels", so the Holy Trinity proclaims offering her "ornaments of gold with studs of silver."

"I clothed you in embroidered cloth and gave you sandals of badger skin; I clothed you with fine linen and covered you with silk. I adorned you with ornaments, put bracelets on your wrists, and a chain on your neck. And I put a jewel in your nose, earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown on your head. Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen, silk, and embroidered cloth." (Ezk 16:10-13)

The Shulamite)

1:12 While the king is at his table, My spikenard sends forth its fragrance.

Although she has perceived Christ as her Bridegroom, and there is a love relationship between them, she still offers reverence and worship: "My spikenard sends forth its fragrance", because He is still her





God and King “*While the king is at his table*”. Her love to Him as the Bridegroom does not mean that she should be negligent in worship, prayers, and veneration:

“I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.” (Psa 34:1)

“In God we boast all day long, And praise Your name forever.” (Psa 44:8)

“...The voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who will say: ‘Praise the Lord of hosts, For the Lord is good, For His mercy endures forever’“ (Jer 33:11)

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.” (Heb 12:28)

1:13 A bundle of myrrh is my beloved to me, That lies all night between my breasts.

“A bundle of myrrh is my beloved to me”

Christ gave Himself to reign over her, humiliating the pain and suffering of the Cross.

“Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Heb 12:2)

Therefore if He has endured the Cross so that she may be in His bosom, she offers to Him her heart as a throne where He sits to reign. In her heart He’ll find rest: He “*lies all night between my breasts*”, where peace and tranquility are found along with vigil and prayer.

1:14 My beloved is to me a cluster of henna blooms In the vineyards of En Gedi.

The Beloved is like the cluster of henna, whose sweet savor is the aroma of His love, which inspired Him to endure all the sufferings (myrrh) for her.

“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.” (Eph 5:2)

The Beloved)

1:15 Behold, you are fair, my love! Behold, you are fair! You have dove’s eyes



As the soul accepted Christ as a Bridegroom, Shepherd, and King, she heard His tender voice praising her. “*Behold, you are fair, my love*” and He repeats it again, “*Behold, you are fair*”, because, “*You have dove’s eyes*”.

Your eyes are as simple and pure as the eyes of the doves. Therefore, you were able to perceive who Christ is:

The Shulamite)

1:16 Behold, you are handsome, my beloved! Yes, pleasant! Also our bed is green.

As she heard the voice of her beloved, she used her weak tongue to describe His beauty: “*Behold, you are handsome, my beloved! Yes, pleasant*”

She starts to understand the loveliness of life with Him: “*Our bed is green*”

The relationship with Christ is always fruitful:

“That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God” (Col 1:10)

1:17 The beams of our houses are cedar, And our rafters of fir.

“The beams of our house are cedar”:

It is a relationship build on strong faith; therefore it will last forever.

“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life” (1Tim 6:12)