

**SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, PART 21**  
**May 16, 2018**  
**Song of Solomon: “A Celebration of Married Love”**

**Introduction**

• **Title**

- Hebrew, “Song of Songs” (from 1:1)
  - Solomon wrote \_\_\_\_\_ songs.
    - 1 Kings 4:32: \_\_\_\_\_
  - This was the \_\_\_\_\_ of them all!
- The Greek Septuagint and Latin Vulgate follow the Hebrew Masoretic text.
- English, “Song of Solomon” also identifies the author of this magnificent song.

• **Author: \_\_\_\_\_**

- Identified as the author in the first verse:
  - Song 1:1: \_\_\_\_\_
- Mentioned 6 other times by name in the book as the \_\_\_\_\_ central to the story.

• **Other Key People:**

- The \_\_\_\_\_—Solomon’s bride
  - Not the daughter of \_\_\_\_\_
  - Probably not Abishag, the Shunnamite concubine of David
  - Probably an Israelite maiden from the area of Shunem, north of Jerusalem
  - Solomon’s \_\_\_\_\_ love and \_\_\_\_\_ wife
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jerusalem
  - Other Israelite women Solomon’s bride addresses throughout the story, possibly members of his household and staff
- The Shulamite’s \_\_\_\_\_
  - Defenders of their sister’s \_\_\_\_\_
- The watchmen on the walls
  - Who \_\_\_\_\_ the Shulamite in her dream

• **Date: Between \_\_\_\_\_ and 931 B.C.**

- The events described in the song took place when Solomon was a \_\_\_\_\_ man, shortly after he became king.
- The song could have been written at \_\_\_\_\_ time during his life.
- The song describes a \_\_\_\_\_ Israel under Solomon’s rule.

• **Background and Setting**

- The Shulamite girl was from a \_\_\_\_\_ family in Israel, possibly in the

- employ of Solomon (8:11-12).
- Solomon personally spent time involved in \_\_\_\_\_ pursuits.
  - Ecc. 2:4-5: \_\_\_\_\_
- Solomon evidently met her near her home, married her, and brought her to live with him in Jerusalem.
- Some parts of the poem take place in the country, some in the city.
- The events described in the poem took place over a period of at least \_\_\_\_\_ years.

- **Overview**

- The couple's \_\_\_\_\_ bliss (1:1-2:7):
  - In the palace (1:2-8)
  - At the banquet table (1:9-12)
  - In the bridal chamber (1:13-2:7)
- A visit to the bride's \_\_\_\_\_ (2:8-3:5)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ in the country (2:8-14)
  - Catching the little foxes (2:15-17)
  - Dreaming of a separation (3:1-5)
- A description of the \_\_\_\_\_ day (3:6-5:1)
  - The wedding procession (3:6-11)
  - The wedding night (4:1-5:1)
- More about the couple's wedded bliss:
  - Another dream of \_\_\_\_\_ (5:2-8)
  - The bride praises her husband's beauty (5:8-6:3)
  - The groom praises his wife's \_\_\_\_\_ (6:4-13)
  - The bride \_\_\_\_\_ for her husband (6:14-7:10)
- Another visit to the country (7:11-8:14)

- **Challenges In the Book**

- How should the Song of Solomon be interpreted?
  - Not as an \_\_\_\_\_
  - Not as an extended \_\_\_\_\_
  - Not as a \_\_\_\_\_ or play
  - Not as a \_\_\_\_\_ of wedding songs
  - The song is a lyric poem that tells a \_\_\_\_\_ story, although events are not presented in chronological order.

- **Key Themes/Doctrines**

- The beauty of God’s plan for \_\_\_\_\_
- The joys of marital \_\_\_\_\_
- The importance of sexual \_\_\_\_\_
- A much-needed book that reinforces the teaching of many other passages of Scripture:
  - Heb. 13:4: \_\_\_\_\_

• **Key Words**

- “\_\_\_\_\_” (32 times in various forms)
- “My beloved” (25 times)
- “\_\_\_\_\_” (11 times)
- “Lily” or “lilies” (8 times)
- “Myrrh” (8 times)
- “Garden” (6 times)
- “King” (5 times)

• **Application**

- What does this song teach about God’s \_\_\_\_\_ for married love?
  - It should be a mutual, total \_\_\_\_\_ of two people to one another:
    - Song 2:16: \_\_\_\_\_
  - It should be an undying, \_\_\_\_\_ commitment (8:6-7).
  - It should be consummated \_\_\_\_\_ only after the couple’s commitments to each other have been witnessed publicly (3:11-5:1).
  - Physical intimacy in marriage is pure, \_\_\_\_\_ by God, and intended by God to be a source of great joy for the married couple.
    - Song 5:1: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Physical purity before marriage must be carefully \_\_\_\_\_ (8:9-10a).
    - Song 8:9-10a: \_\_\_\_\_

• **Christ in the Book**

- Since Christ is our Heavenly \_\_\_\_\_, we can learn from this description of married love what our \_\_\_\_\_ should be like for Christ.
    - Compare the bride’s dream of separation from her beloved (5:2-7) with the words of Christ to the Laodicean church (Rev. 3:19-20).
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