



Biblical Manhood

Remembering Our Legacy, Fulfilling Our Destiny

March/April, 2014

The God Of Sex

In **Song of Solomon 5:1**, Solomon declares, “I came to my garden, my sister, my bride, I gathered my myrrh with my spice, I ate my honeycomb with my honey, I drank my wine with my milk.” He does this in response to Abishag’s request, “Let my beloved come to his garden, and eat its choicest fruits” (**Song of Solomon 4:16**).

Solomon and Abishag are now married. They now consummate their relationship. Abishag fully and unreservedly gives herself to Solomon. Solomon complies and makes love to her. **Song of Solomon 5:1** reveals the delights of the marriage bed. The language of **5:1** is very sensuous and evocative, yet a pure and chaste description of sex in marriage.

Notice the intimacy of this moment. See how many times Solomon uses the word “my” – my garden, my sister, and my bride. This shows the intimacy between Solomon and Abishag. She is his garden – he will only seek sexual

union and pleasure with her. She is his sister – a word denoting unity and intimacy. She is his bride – he has committed himself to her and to her alone. These phrases show the intimate union of the marriage relationship.

Yet, not only did they have intimacy, they also had pleasure. She is his myrrh with spice. She is his honeycomb with honey. She is his wine with milk. All these phrases speak of total and complete pleasure. These phrases involve all the senses in pure pleasure and delight. Solomon enters Abishag’s garden – her body –and enjoys all its delights. This verse manifests that he partook of all the good things in her garden (**4:1-7**). He has possessed her completely, which is a fitting image of sexual intercourse.

At the end of this verse, we find these words, “Eat, friends, drink, and be drunk with love!” (**Song of Solomon 5:1b**). Who is speaking at the end of this verse? Some believe that it is the friends of Solomon and Abishag. It was a custom in this day for the family and

friends at the wedding to stay until consummation. They command Solomon and Abishag to enjoy. They recognize no limits to the joy that lovers may find in one another. They exhort them to pursue the pleasure of the marriage bed.

Some scholars believe this final voice is God's. It is God's voice of approval. I'm not sure if I agree with this. However, I like the point. God has designed the marriage bed to be one of pure pleasure and delight. He takes pleasure in those bodies that receive sexual pleasure in marriage. He loves the lovemaking in the marriage relationship. He's the "cheering section" for the man and woman in the marriage bed.

Application To The Marriage Relationship

This text reveals that sex is God's good gift. Sex is a blessing that God has given for the marriage relationship. This text celebrates the beauty and goodness of sexual love. **Song of Solomon 5:1** shows that God has given the marriage bed as a place of pure blessing, delight, and pleasure for the man and the woman. God affirms that what happens in the marriage bed is wholesome and proper and that it glorifies him.

This text teaches that sex is unity. The world says that sex is nothing. God says that it is a unity – an inexplicable, God-ordained unity. The world says that sex

is recreational, a purely biological urge, no different from going to the bathroom. Yet, God says in His Word that it is a mutual submission and possession. Read **5:1** again. Solomon is saying, "I give myself to you and you give yourself to me. You eat me up and drink me in and I eat you up and drink you in. You become a part of me and I become a part of you" (**Genesis 2:24**).

This text exposes the fact that the world has made sex into an idol. God has ordained sex only for marriage (**Hebrews 13:4**). Sex is an idol and perhaps the most prevalent one today. It has its own worship centers – brothels, hotels, bookstores, and computers. It has its own priests and priestesses – porn stars, suggestive pop stars, lingerie models, etc. It has millions of "church" members who pay money and do homage to the idol of sex.

Christianity seeks to destroy the idol of sex from our hearts. The Christian faith labors to erect the understanding that sex is the gift of God. It is to be used the way that God has ordained in the Word. It seeks to reveal that sex is to be for the glory of God. It is not an idol that we are to cling to and pursue. It is a gift of God to be used in His way and for His glory. You can't have sex first and Jesus second. Sex is not a god but a blessing from God.

Application To Our Relationship To Jesus Christ

This text teaches us about the fellowship that we can have with Christ. There are commentators who cannot accept the application of these words to our relationship with Jesus Christ. They seem only to fit the relationship between a husband and wife. It is hard for us to understand how this intimate language can be applied to our relationship to Jesus.

Yet, I believe that this is because the world has degraded sex and emptied of its rich, biblical meaning and purpose. The intimacy between a man and woman mirrors the intimacy between Christ and His church (Ephesians 5:31-32).

The fellowship between Christ and the believer can be rich, deep, and unceasing. It can be exciting and fulfilling. It can be satisfying and unique. Just as the sexual relationship between a husband and wife, Christ and the believer can have a unique intimacy that blesses, strengthens, and fulfills the believer.

Second, sex is a bridge to God. Not only is sex a blessing from God, it is a bridge to God. The highest pleasures and sweetest intimacies are designed to leave people wanting more. Sex creates a hunger for something infinitely more beautiful, pleasurable, and satisfying. Sex is designed to point us to God, the

Lord of love, in whom all longings are ultimately satisfied.

The incomplete satisfaction sex gives is intentional. Sex is not a god; it is a bridge to God. I believe this explains why Jesus says that there will be no marriage in heaven (**Matthew 22:30**), which I believe means there will be no sex in heaven. Why? Because it's not needed. To know God is to need nothing!

This text reveals that we must seek this fellowship and intimacy with Christ. Abishag requested this intimacy with Solomon, "Let my beloved come to his garden, and eat its choicest fruits" (**Song of Solomon 4:16**). I believe this reminds us that we are to cry out to Christ. We are to seek Him. Christ loves us and He desires to have fellowship with us. Yet, we must seek Him and call on Him, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock, if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and eat with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20). If you desire the life changing, satisfying, fulfilling fellowship with Christ, you must receive Him and seek Him.

World Prayer Plan

July

- 1-Luxembourg
- 2-Macao
- 3-Macedonia
- 4-Madagascar

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| 5-Malawi | 9-Nicaragua |
| 6-Malaysia-The Church | 10-Niger |
| 7-Malaysia-The Lost | 11-Nigeria-The Church |
| 8-Malaysia-Open Doors | 12-Nigeria-The Lost |
| 9-Maldives | 13-Norway |
| 10-Mali | 14-Oman |
| 11-Malta | 15-Pakistan-The Church |
| 12-Marshall Islands | 16-Pakistan-The Lost |
| 13-Martinique | 17-Pakistan-Open Doors |
| 14-Mauritania | 18-Pakistan-Persecuted Believers |
| 15-Mauritius | 19-Palau |
| 16-Mexico-The Church | 20-Palestine West Bank-Open Doors |
| 17-Mexico-The Lost | 21-Palestine West Bank-Peace |
| 18-Micronesia | 22-Panama |
| 19-Midway Islands | 23-Papua New Guinea-The Church |
| 20-Moldova | 24-Papua New Guinea-The Lost |
| 21-Monaco | 25-Paraguay |
| 22-Mongolia | 26-Peru-The Church |
| 23-Montserrat | 27-Peru-The Lost |
| 24-Morocco-The Church | 28-Philippines-The Church |
| 25-Morocco-The Lost | 29-Philippines-The Lost |
| 26-Morocco-Persecuted Believers | 30-Pitcairn Island |
| 27-Mozambique-The Church | 31-Poland-The Church |
| 28-Mozambique-The Lost | |
| 29-Myanmar (Burma)-The Church | |
| 30-Myanmar (Burma)-The Lost | |
| 31-Namibia | |

August

- 1-Nauru
- 2-Nepal-The Church
- 3-Nepal-The Lost
- 4-Nepal-Mission Efforts
- 5-Netherlands
- 6-Netherlands Antilles
- 7-New Caledonia
- 8-New Zealand

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