



Biblical Manhood

Remembering Our Legacy, Fulfilling Our Destiny

May/June, 2015

The Joy Of Relationship

In **Song of Solomon 7:1-7**, Solomon once again expresses his affection and desire for his beloved, Abishag. This is the third description of her body. He has previously done this in **4:1-8** and **6:4-10**. Now, in these verses, he surveys the major parts of her body. It is a comprehensive and intimate description. It is the most intimate inventory in the book.

In **Song of Solomon 7:7-10**, we see the joy of relationship. After his intimate inventory of Abishag, Solomon expresses his passion for her. This view of her body has stirred him and he cannot help but express his desire for her. Once he does, this Abishag responds to the passion of her husband.

The Bridegroom's Passion

(Song of Solomon 7:7-9a)

In these verses, Solomon makes known his rugged desire to enjoy the delights on his wife, "Your stature is like a palm tree, and your breasts are like its clusters. I say I will climb the palm tree and lay hold on its fruit" (**7:7-8a**). Solomon

describes Abishag as a lean woman who is well endowed. He longs to experience the delight of making love to her. His passion is at a fever pitch. He left nothing to chance; he did not assume that his wife understood what he was feeling. He told her and he told her plainly.

He then describes his anticipation of being with his wife, "Oh may your breasts be like clusters of the vine, and the scent of your breath like apples. And your mouth like the best wine" (**7:8b-9a**). Her breasts, her breath, and her mouth were sources of sensual delight and desire. Solomon was creative and imaginative as he expressed his desire for Abishag. He was never boring. He never displayed a one-track mind.

This text speaks to the marriage relationship. It is a call for men to express clearly and plainly their desire for their wife. A husband should look for fresh and new ways to communicate his love to and desire for his wife. God has designed marriage that a man and a woman can have pleasure and delight in the other one. Thank the Father for the gift of your wife

and ask for His help in creative and imaginative ways to express your love and desire for your wife.

This is not to happen just in the early years of the marriage. It's a call to continue in this all the days of your married life. God's purpose for marriage is joy and delight all the days of life. Yes, there will be hard times. However, God has designed marriage to be a delight, a joy all the days that one is married (**Proverbs 5:18-19**).

This text also gives us insight into the love that Christ has for His Bride. Jesus is passionate about His church. He longs to have fellowship with His people. He desires to lavish the church with His love and care. His heart beats for the church that He gave Himself for. The intimacy described here is an illustration of the passion that Jesus Christ has for His bride. He desires to have fellowship and to express His love for His church. Jesus Christ takes deep pleasure in fellowship with His people.

The Bride's Response

(7:9b-10)

It has been some time since Abishag has spoken (**6:13**). She has been listening carefully and taking in all that her husband has been saying. He has gotten the attention of her heart and she responds.

First, she expressed her desire to satisfy and please Solomon, "It goes down

smoothly for my beloved, gliding over teeth and lips" (**7:9b**). Solomon's goal was to satisfy and please her. Yet, Abishag declares the same thing! She wants to satisfy and please Solomon. They had a mutual goal of pleasing and satisfying each other. They sought to do this through mutual giving to one another.

Second, she delights in the fact that her husband's delight was for her and her alone, "I am my beloved's and his desire is for me" (**7:10**). She is delighted in the fact that her husband's desire is for her only. What joy! What security! What satisfaction! She was grateful for his desire for her.

Abishag has made a similar statement like this twice before (**2:16** and **6:3**). In those verses, she declares, "I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine." Yet, here she changes it. She adds instead "and his desire is for me." This highlights the joy she has in knowing that he truly desires her and longs to be with her. She takes great comfort in her union with him.

What does this text teach us about the marriage relationship? This text shows us that giving and receiving are essential to a healthy marriage. It's crucial to notice the give and take in the text. Both have the goal of satisfying and pleasing each other. They had a mutual giving and receiving. This is an essential to a healthy and growing marriage.

This text also teaches a man about his responsibility in the marriage relationship. The man has to take the lead

in building and maintaining a healthy marriage. How can he do this?

He is to praise his wife (7:1-6)

He is to pursue his wife (7:7-8)

He is to be passionate about his wife (7:8b-9)

I know that this is a heavy burden for a man. It almost seems impossible. Yet, this is why men must seek the Lord. This is why men must ask for the filling and empowering of the Spirit.

What does this teach us about our relationship to Christ? First, this text shows us that we are to respond to Christ with passion. Christ loves His people and longs to be with them. Because of this, we are to seek Him with our whole being. We are to respond to Him with praise, commitment, and obedience. To respond with any less is an insult to the love and longing that Jesus Christ has for His people.

Christ loves you. He passionately longs to be with you (**Revelation 3:20**). How will you respond to Him? The only right response is to pursue Him with all your heart through prayer, the Word, and worship. Won't you call on Him and thank Him for His love and desire for you? Won't you commit yourself to responding to Him with passionate faith and obedience?

This text also teaches us about our security in Jesus Christ. We can say the same thing about our relationship to Jesus

Christ, "I am my beloved's and his desire is for me." By faith in Jesus Christ, we belong to Him. His desire is toward us at all times. This is why He came into the world. He sympathizes with us in our distresses. He protects us in all our dangers. He provides for us all we need in our utter destitution.

Do you delight in His desire for you? Take comfort in the fact that He desires you. Let this breathe new life into your sagging faith – Jesus loves you and longs for you. Rest in the security of the fact that Jesus desires you!

World Prayer Plan

July

- 1-Luxembourg
- 2-Macao
- 3-Macedonia
- 4-Madagascar
- 5-Malawi
- 6-Malaysia-The Church
- 7-Malaysia-The Lost
- 8-Malaysia-Open Doors
- 9-Maldives
- 10-Mali
- 11-Malta
- 12-Marshall Islands
- 13-Martinique
- 14-Mauritania
- 15-Mauritius
- 16-Mexico-The Church
- 17-Mexico-The Lost
- 18-Micronesia
- 19-Midway Islands

20-Moldova
 21-Monaco
 22-Mongolia
 23-Montserrat
 24-Morocco-The Church
 25-Morocco-The Lost
 26-Morocco-Persecuted Believers
 27-Mozambique-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-Netherland Antilles
 7-New Caledonia
 8-New Zealand
 9-Nicaragua
 10-Niger
 11-Nigeria-The Church
 12-Nigeria-The Lost
 13-Norway
 14-Oman
 15-Pakistan-The Church
 16-Pakistan-The Lost
 17-Pakistan-Open Doors
 18-Pakistan-Persecuted Believers
 19-Palau
 20-Palestine West Bank-Open Doors
 21-Palestine West Bank-Peace
 22-Panama
 23-Papua New Guinea-The Church

24-Papua New Guinea-The Lost
 25-Paraguay
 26-Peru-The Church
 27-Peru-The Lost
 28-Philippines-The Church
 29-Philippines-The Lost
 30-Pitcairn Island
 31-Poland-The Church

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