



Biblical Manhood

Remembering Our Legacy, Fulfilling Our Destiny

November/December, 2014

The Look Of Love

In **Song of Solomon 5:9-6:3**, we see that Solomon and Abishag are reunited (6:2-3). Their relationship has been restored. They come together after a time of adversity in their relationship. They renew their vows to one another, "I am my beloved and my beloved is mine" (6:3).

After being reconciled, Solomon declares his admiration of Abishag (6:4-10). He expresses why he is attracted to her. This is his second portrayal of Abishag. He points out the grandeur and beauty of his bride. He gives a full body view of his beloved Abishag.

In this text, I would call your attention to three truths:

She is attractive to him (6:4-7).

Solomon starts by speaking about how attractive Abishag is, "You are

beautiful as Tirzah, my love, lovely as Jerusalem, awesome as an army with banners" (6:4). He declares that Abishag's body is beautiful. The word "beautiful" is used sixteen times in this book. He admires the body of his bride.

The images that Solomon uses in this verse are meant to convey beauty, majesty, and splendor. "Tirzah" was the capital city in Israel until King Omri built a new city in Samaria to replace it. This city's name means pleasant or sweetness. It is a most beautiful sight with gardens, groves, and a most abundant water supply.

"Jerusalem" means city or foundation of peace. It was the place where God dwelt, the place where God had put His name. To Solomon and all other Israelites, it was a beautiful, majestic, and sacred place.

Solomon also refers to Abishag as "awesome as an army with banners."

What an awe-inspiring site to see a mighty army marching in rank flying under colorful banners. Such a site stirred the hearts of people in ancient times. Solomon says Abishag stirred his heart in the same way.

When Solomon looked at Abishag, he is deeply affected and moved, "Turn away your eyes from me, for they overwhelm me" (6:5). The beauty of Abishag overcomes Solomon. He gets nervous in her presence. His eyes are amazed at what he sees.

Although overwhelmed, Solomon describes the beauty of Abishag:

Her Hair (6:5)

"Your hair is like a flock of goats leaping down the slopes of Gilead." Abishag has long, flowing hair. Her hair was a sight to see.

Her Teeth (6:6)

"Your teeth are like a flock of ewes that have come up from the washing; all of them bear twins, not one of them is missing." Solomon focuses on the whiteness and uniformity of her teeth. They are bright and in perfect place.

Her Cheeks (6:7)

"Your cheeks are like hives of a pomegranate behind your veil." Her cheeks are like beautiful, luscious fruit hidden behind her veil.

She is unique (6:8-9)

Solomon now makes known how unique Abishag is, "There are sixty queens and eighty concubines, and virgins without number" (6:8). Solomon describes three classes of women in this verse. These describe the three levels of the royal harem. They move from the most select of women, "queens," the royal wives, to the "virgins," the young women who were not mothers. The "concubines" were secondary wives.

Solomon declares that, among all these women, Abishag is unique, "My dove, my perfect one, is the only one, the only one of her mother, pure to her who bore her" (6:9). Abishag is different from all others. When Solomon says that Abishag is "the only one of her mother," he's saying that when she was born, she broke the maternal mold. There could be no one else like her. She is indeed a special woman.

Others praise her (6:10).

There is some question about who is speaking in this verse. I believe that Solomon is repeating the words of the women mentioned in 6:8. He heard what others said about Abishag. He repeats this here to emphasize what he has already said, "Who is this who looks down like the dawn, beautiful as the

moon, bright as the sun, awesome as an army with banners” (6:10).

The women of the royal court acknowledge the uniqueness of Abishag. They confess that she has been blessed with great beauty. They point out her brightness by comparisons to astronomy – the dawn, the moon, and the sun. They also extol her majesty by referring to her as the army with banners. It is not Solomon alone who recognizes Abishag’s beauty; others praise her for her beauty and majesty. They acknowledge that she outshines them all.

Application To Marriage

Admire the beauty of your spouse.

This text is a powerful reminder of your wife’s beauty. This beauty comes from God. This text calls husbands and potential husbands to remember this. This applies from the beginning of the marriage through the years ahead. Beauty is like a rose; it’s worth beholding even though you know it’s withering away.

Labor to make your wife feel unique to you.

The one thing that stands out in this text is the Solomon pointed out Abishag’s uniqueness to him – and to others. He labors to show her how special and unique that she is. A godly husband

should strive to do this for his wife – by his words and his actions.

Application To Christ And His Church

The love and faith of believers have weight with Christ and affect him.

The words of Solomon echo the heart of the greater Solomon Jesus Christ, “Turn away your eyes from me, for they overwhelm me” (6:5). The Lord of glory is overcome when His people look to Him. It stirs His heart when His people call on Him and trust Him. He cannot resist the look of faith! Our Savior loves us so much that our looking to Him incites him. It’s as if our Savior is saying, “I cannot resist those eyes that look to me.” Your Savior is overwhelmed with love and compassion when you look to Him.

There is no truer love than that of the Lord Jesus Christ for His church.

As much as Solomon loves Abishag, the greater Solomon loves His people more. He delights in His people. He glories in those whom He has saved. Even though we are sinful, cold, and ungrateful, He loves us and draws us to Himself. He loves every believer who comprises His church with the same love. He delights in every one who trusts in Him and calls on His name. As a believer, you are loved. Jesus rejoices over you; He delights in you!

World Prayer Plan

January

- 1-Afghanistan-The Church
- 2-Afghanistan-The Lost
- 3-Albania
- 4-Algeria
- 5-American Samoa
- 6-Andorra
- 7-Angola
- 8-Anguilla
- 9-Antigua
- 10-Argentina-The Church
- 11-Argentina-The Lost
- 12-Armenia
- 13-Aruba
- 14-Australia-The Church
- 15-Australia-The Lost
- 16-Austria-The Church
- 17-Austria-The Lost
- 18-Azerbaijan
- 19-Bahamas
- 20-Bangladesh
- 21-Barbados
- 22-Belgium
- 23-Belize
- 24-Benin
- 25-Bermuda
- 26-Bhutan
- 27-Bolivia-The Church
- 28-Bolivia-The Lost
- 29-Botswana
- 30-Brazil-The Church
- 31-Brazil-The Lost

February

- 1-British Virgin Islands
- 2-Brunei
- 3-Bulgaria
- 4-Burkina Faso
- 5-Burundi

- 6-Byelarus
- 7-Cambodia
- 8-Cameroon
- 9-Canada-The Church
- 10-Canada-The Lost
- 11-Cape Verde Islands
- 12-Cayman Islands
- 13-Central African Republic
- 14-Chad
- 15-Channel Islands
- 16-Chile
- 17-China-The Church
- 18-China-The Lost
- 19-China-Persecuted Believers
- 20-China-Spiritual Warfare
- 21-China-Missionaries
- 22-China-Agencies Working in China
- 23-China-Provision of Bibles
- 24-China-Christian Literature
- 25-China-Conversion of Soldiers
- 26-China-Collapse of Communism
- 27-China-Taiwan
- 28-Colombia-The Church

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