



# Biblical Manhood

Remembering Our Legacy, Fulfilling Our Destiny

September/October, 2013

## A Sight To Behold

It was quite a sight to behold. Jerusalem had never seen anything like this before. Moreover, it would certainly not see anything like it again.

The citizens of Jerusalem looked out into the distance and saw a procession coming toward them. It was a majestic, one-of-a-kind procession. Who could this be coming to Jerusalem? **Song of Solomon 3:6-11** answers this question. There are three things that I would ask you to notice about this procession:

### **A Procession Out Of The Desert To Glory (3:6)**

In **3:6**, we have a description of the bridal procession traveling through the desert to Jerusalem. Solomon and Abishag's wedding day has come! They are coming into Jerusalem for this wedding ceremony. In these opening verses, it is described as seen through the eyes of the onlookers. The chief onlookers are the daughters of Jerusalem.

What did they see? They saw an immense procession approaching Jerusalem. The column or pillar of smoke is the burning of myrrh and incense. All sorts of pungent spices and incense burn in the air and are scenting the atmosphere. What a beautiful aroma surrounds this procession!

This applies to Christ and His church. Christ is bringing His church out of the desert of this world to heavenly glory! Christ is working to bring His people into glory. He is leading us out of the desert of sin and temptation to heavenly joy and security.

In one sense, we are already "married" to Christ. When we trusted in Him, we were joined to Him by faith – "married" to Him. Yet, there is coming the wedding supper of the Lamb. There is coming a day when our faith will be consummated. We will see Jesus. We will be forever joined to Him in heavenly peace and joy.

It's important to notice that Abishag was with Solomon in this procession. He

was carrying her to Jerusalem for the wedding. This points us to Christ. While the church is in the world, she is with Christ and Christ is with her. We have a very present Savior! While we travel through this world of sin and misery, Jesus walks with us, sustaining and securing us.

### **A Procession That Focuses On The Groom (3:7-10)**

As the procession gets closer, notice what the onlookers say, "Look! It is Solomon's carriage, escorted by sixty warriors, the noblest of Israel" (3:7). Notice the word "carriage." Some translations use the word "bed" or "couch." It's the royal chariot of Solomon!

It's important to see that Solomon's palace guard surrounds this carriage (3:8). These are the choicest of men, his mighty men that was twice the number of David's (2 Samuel 23). They are more than capable of defending the royal couple from any and all dangers that might come.

These mighty men should remind us of angels. The Lord Jesus Christ has assigned the angels to watch over and protect His people. On this journey to heaven, angels surround us to watch over and protect us. They are ready and

willing to come to our defense against all the plans and schemes of the evil one. *There is no king or president so well taken care of and guarded as the one who truly believes in Jesus Christ.*

As the procession draws near, it can be more clearly seen. We are now given more details; "Of the wood of Lebanon Solomon the King made himself a palanquin: He made pillars of silver, its support of gold, its seat of purple, its interior paved with love by the daughters of Jerusalem" (3:9-10).

Solomon designed and made this carriage of the finest wood. It seems the carriage had silver posts and a golden base. Its seat has been lovingly upholstered with rare and precious purple cloth. Only the finest of materials are used. He does all this for His bride!

This once again points us to Jesus. As we journey to heaven, our Savior richly meets all our needs. He is the One who grants us blessing after blessing. He gives us the Holy Spirit to encourage, equip, and empower us. We are richly endowed with all that we need for this journey to heavenly glory.

What's interesting about this procession is that the emphasis is on Solomon. When you go to a wedding today, who receives the attention? On whom should we focus? It is the bride! Nevertheless, in this marriage procession

and ceremony, the focus is on the groom. All the attention and focus is on Solomon!

I believe this provides a powerful lesson for believers. Through faith in Jesus, we are the bride of Christ. Yet, we are to point to Jesus. We are to make Jesus the focus.

We are to seek to honor and glorify Him in all matters. We would transfer the glory to Christ. We would have others look away from us to focus on the Lord Jesus Christ. We are to applaud and praise Him. We are to recommend Him to others and not ourselves. Jesus Christ is alone worthy of notice!

### **A Procession That Ends In A Celebration (3:11)**

Finally, the wedding procession reaches Jerusalem. Notice the shout that goes up, "Go forth, O daughters of Zion, and see King Solomon with the crown with which his mother crowned him on the day of his wedding, the day of the gladness of his heart" (3:11). The phrase "daughters of Zion" is synonymous with daughters of Jerusalem. "Zion" refers to the heart of Jerusalem.

Again, the emphasis is on the groom, Solomon. The magnificent crown on Solomon's head attracts them. It was a wedding gift given to him by his mother. They are also struck by his joy. For

Solomon, it was a great day. His heart was glad, filled and captivated by joy.

This once again points us to Jesus. When He brings all true believers home, He will be honored. When we trust in Jesus Christ by faith, we crown Him as the Lord of our personal lives. We surrender to His reign. We bow in submission to Him. This delights His heart.

Yet, there's coming a day when all His people will surround the throne of God. All of His people will be joined to Him not just by faith but also by sight. He will rejoice to see all His people in heaven. His heart will be glad. Christ endured the cross because of the joy set before Him (**Hebrews 12:2**). In heaven, the heart of Jesus will be glad, overjoyed, that His work on the cross has brought multitudes on top of multitudes into heavenly glory!

In this study, we have seen how this passage applies to Christ and the believer. Yet, how does it apply to Christian marriage? I believe that it has two applications.

First, in this text, the wedding day has a crucial place in this story. It's not the day love began, nor is it the most important day of the marriage. Yet, the wedding day is anticipated with a great deal of anticipation and excitement. This

shows us the importance that God places on marriage, on the wedding ceremony.

Many today say, "Who needs a wedding? Why do you have to have a piece of paper if you really love each other?" It is because God has created and ordained marriage. This text shows us that God delights in and honors the wedding day. Despite the cynicism and fear of our day, getting married is honorable and ordained of the Lord.

This text shows that it is the man's responsibility to protect and provide for his wife. This is an important part of his calling. He is to be respectful and considerate of her, protecting and providing for her as the weaker partner (1 Peter 3:7).

## World Prayer Plan

### November

- 1-Turks and Caicos Islands
- 2-Tuvalu
- 3-Uganda-The Church
- 4-Uganda-The Lost
- 5-Ukraine-The Church
- 6-United Arab Emirates
- 7-United Kingdom-The Church
- 8-United Kingdom-The Lost
- 9-United Kingdom-Spiritual Awakening
- 10-England
- 11-Northern Ireland
- 12-Scotland
- 13-Wales
- 14-United States-The Church

- 15-United States-The Lost
- 16-United States-Spiritual Awakening
- 17-United States-Missionary Fervor
- 18-United States-Government
- 19-United States-Spiritual Unity
- 20-Uruguay
- 21-Uzbekistan
- 22-Vanuatu
- 23-Venezuela-The Church
- 24-Venezuela-The Lost
- 25-Vietnam-The Church
- 26-Vietnam-The Lost
- 27-Vietnam-Open Doors
- 28-Virgin Islands
- 29-Revival In Caribbean
- 30-Wallis and Futura Islands

### December

- 1-Yemen-The Church
- 2-Yemen-The Lost
- 3-Yugoslavia
- 4-Bosnia
- 5-Hercegovina
- 6-Montenegro
- 7-Serbia
- 8-Macedonia
- 9-Zaire-The Church
- 10-Zaire-The Lost
- 11-Zambia
- 12-Zimbabwe
- 13-Africa
- 14-Asia
- 15-Caribbean
- 16-Eurasia
- 17-Europe
- 18-Latin America
- 19-Middle East
- 20-North America
- 21-Pacific

- 22-The Fall of Islam
- 23-The Fall of Hinduism
- 24-Bible Translation and Distribution Across the World
- 25-That The Glory and Power of Jesus Would Be Seen Across The World
- 26-More Missionaries
- 27-Believers With A Heart For The World
- 28-Increase In Giving To Mission Efforts
- 29-Destruction of Satan's Grip Over the Nations
- 30-Worldwide Prayer For World Evangelization
- 31-The Soon Return Of Jesus.

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