

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 213 – The Rose Of Sharon Through Behold Solomon (Song of Solomon 2:1-3:11)

1. What is this woman's point in describing herself as the rose of Sharon and the lily among thorns?

She is describing the beauty of her love for Solomon: *"(1) I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys. (2) As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters"* (**Song of Solomon 2:1-2**).

- Sharon was a place of excellence and the blossom of a rose holds meaning (**Isaiah 35:1-2**). She compared her love to a rose in Sharon.
- Lilies are beautifully arrayed (**Luke 12:27**).
- Her love is different as her love is as a lily among the thorns known as the other daughters of Israel. Thorns are a negative image (**Jeremiah 4:3** and **Luke 8:7; 14**).
- This is the only place that speaks of "the rose of Sharon" in the entire Bible.

2. What imagery is used to show how she perceived Solomon to be special in comparison to other men?

That Solomon was an apple tree among other trees with fruit good to taste: *"As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste"* (**Song of Solomon 2:3**).

- This woman compares Solomon to an apple tree that she wants to taste the fruit of as she sits in the shadow of that tree. She will later use similar language inviting Solomon to do the same (**Song of Solomon 4:16**).
- Yes, this portrays an image of oral sex.

3. Was this woman interested in uninterrupted time of pleasure with Solomon?

Yes: *"(4) He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. (5) Stay me with flagons, comfort me with apples: for I am sick of love. (6) His left hand is under my head, and his right hand doth embrace me. (7) I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please"* (**Song of Solomon 2:4-7**).

- She sees Solomon declaring his love with a banner [flag]. A banner was meant to be displayed (**Psalms 60:4**).
- She wanted to be held [stayed] with a flagon, which was a container (**II Samuel 6:19**).
- She needed comforted for she was sick of love (**II Samuel 13:1-2** and **Song of Solomon 5:8**).
- She dreamed of an uninterrupted sexual encounter (**Song of Solomon 8:2-4**).

4. Did this woman fantasize about Solomon whisking her away?

Yes: *“(8) The voice of my beloved! behold, he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills. (9) My beloved is like a roe or a young hart: behold, he standeth behind our wall, he looketh forth at the windows, shewing himself through the lattice. (10) My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. (11) For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; (12) The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land; (13) The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away” (Song of Solomon 2:8-15).*

- The leaping upon the mountain this woman envisions shows Solomon’s excitement as he comes to her (cf. **II Samuel 6:16**).
- The roe and hart show the hurry (**Song of Solomon 8:14**).
- This springtime love affair was ready to spring forth. As we saw earlier, the outdoors served as a bedroom for them at a point in time (**Song of Solomon 1:13-17**).

5. Did this woman want a brief encounter with Solomon?

No, until day break: *“(16) My beloved is mine, and I am his: he feedeth among the lilies. (17) Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, turn, my beloved, and be thou like a roe or a young hart upon the mountains of Bether” (Song of Solomon 2:16-17).*

- There is a commitment (**Song of Solomon 7:10**; cf. **I Corinthians 7:1-5**).
- Solomon shared the desire to have lasting sex (**Song of Solomon 4:1-7**).

6. Did this woman want to find Solomon in her bed?

Yes: *“By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not” (Song of Solomon 3:1).*

- Physical lust will cause one to long after another (**Genesis 34:1-8**).

7. When she did envision going and finding him, what did she want to do with him?

Take him to her mother’s bed and not be interrupted: *“(2) I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets, and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not. (3) The watchmen that go about the city found me: to whom I said, Saw ye him whom my soul loveth? (4) It was but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth: I held him, and would not let him go, until I had brought him into my mother’s house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me. (5) I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please” (Song of Solomon 3:2-5).*

- Having a bed ready is a tool of seduction [I am not calling this woman a harlot] (**Proverbs 7:10-18**).

8. How much privacy existed in Solomon's bedroom?

Because of his fear in the night, he was heavily guarded: *"(6) Who is this that cometh out of the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all powders of the merchant? (7) Behold his bed, which is Solomon's; threescore valiant men are about it, of the valiant of Israel. (8) They all hold swords, being expert in war: every man hath his sword upon his thigh because of fear in the night"* (**Song of Solomon 3:6-8**).

- Bed was not a safe place for a king (**II Chronicles 24:23-25**).

9. Was Solomon a "sight to behold" (so to speak) when he was in his chariot?

Yes: *"(9) King Solomon made himself a chariot of the wood of Lebanon. (10) He made the pillars thereof of silver, the bottom thereof of gold, the covering of it of purple, the midst thereof being paved with love, for the daughters of Jerusalem. (11) Go forth, O ye daughters of Zion, and behold king Solomon with the crown wherewith his mother crowned him in the day of his espousals, and in the day of the gladness of his heart"* (**Song of Solomon 3:9-11**).

- This would be Solomon coming on his chariot in the day of his "espousals" [weddings]. He had many wives (**I Kings 11:1-6**).