

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 212 – Song of Songs Through Outdoor Relations (Song of Solomon 1:1-17)

1. Who composed the song of songs which we are about to study?

Solomon: *“The song of songs, which is Solomon’s”* (Song of Solomon 1:1).

- Solomon wrote many songs (I Kings 4:30-32).

2. Does a kiss have anything to do with love?

Yes: *“Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth: for thy love is better than wine”* (Song of Solomon 1:2).

- A kiss does not just symbolize fleshly lust (Genesis 45:15 and Luke 15:20).
- There is a difference between a kiss based in lust (Proverbs 7:10-13) and that of brotherly love (Acts 20:36-38 and I Peter 5:14).

3. Was it just one woman who desired Solomon?

No: *“(3) Because of the savour of thy good ointments thy name is as ointment poured forth, therefore do the virgins love thee. (4) Draw me, we will run after thee: the king hath brought me into his chambers: we will be glad and rejoice in thee, we will remember thy love more than wine: the upright love thee”* (Song of Solomon 1:3-4).

- Solomon loved many women (I Kings 11:1-3).
- God warned about a king having many women (Deuteronomy 17:15-17).
- God knows that we have sexual desires. His will is that we fill those desires with one mate (I Corinthians 7:1-5).

4. Did the woman talking about Solomon seem to have some concern about her image?

Yes: *“(5) I am black, but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, as the tents of Kedar, as the curtains of Solomon. (6) Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me: my mother’s children were angry with me; they made me the keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept”* (Song of Solomon 1:5-6).

- Lust and physical attraction go hand in hand (II Samuel 11:1-5 and Proverbs 6:25).
- Beauty cannot be all there is to a relationship (Proverbs 31:30).
- Self-esteem issues will occur when physical attraction is placed at a premium (i.e. Song of Solomon 8:8-10).

5. What did this woman want to know about Solomon’s flocks and how did he answer her?

A. She wanted to know even where his flocks were kept: *“Tell me, O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon: for why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions”* (Song of Solomon 1:7)?

B. He answered her by telling her how to track the flocks: *"If thou know not, O thou fairest among women, go thy way forth by the footsteps of the flock, and feed thy kids beside the shepherds' tents"* (**Song of Solomon 1:8**).

- This may be in an attempt to locate where Solomon might be at times (cf. **Genesis 37:16** and **Ezekiel 34:12**).
- Solomon calling her fairest among women indicates his attraction to her (**Genesis 12:11**).

6. What did Solomon compare this woman to?

A company of horses in Pharaoh's chariots: *"I have compared thee, O my love, to a company of horses in Pharaoh's chariots"* (**Song of Solomon 1:9**).

- Solomon valued horses from Egypt (**I Kings 10:28-29** and **II Chronicles 1:14-17**).

7. Was jewelry part of what caused Solomon to be attracted to this woman?

Yes: *"(10) Thy cheeks are comely with rows of jewels, thy neck with chains of gold. (11) We will make thee borders of gold with studs of silver"* (**Song of Solomon 1:10-11**).

- **Genesis 24:43-47**.
- In figurative terms, God used jewelry to describe beauty (**Jeremiah 4:30** and **Ezekiel 16:11-13**).
- The physical relationship of a man and a woman will, with authority from God, carry some attractions that are worldly (**I Corinthians 7:31-34**).

8. Does fragrance have anything to do with sexual attraction?

Yes: *"(12) While the king sitteth at his table, my spikenard sendeth forth the smell thereof. (13) A bundle of myrrh is my wellbeloved unto me; he shall lie all night betwixt my breasts. (14) My beloved is unto me as a cluster of camphire [henna blossoms] in the vineyards of En-ge-di"* (**Song of Solomon 1:12-14**).

- **Esther 2:12-13**, **Proverbs 7:10-18**, **Proverbs 27:9**, and **Song of Solomon 4:13-16**.

9. Can eyes be part of what attracts one person to another?

Yes: *"Behold, thou art fair, my love; behold, thou art fair; thou hast doves' eyes"* (**Song of Solomon 1:15**; cf. **Song of Solomon 4:1** and **Song of Solomon 5:12**).

10. Was it implied that Solomon and this woman had sexual encounters outdoors?

Yes: *"(16) Behold, thou art fair, my beloved, yea, pleasant: also our bed is green. (17) The beams of our house are cedar, and our rafters of fir"* (**Song of Solomon 1:16-17**).

- They may have met outdoors at times or at a time because of how guarded Solomon was (**Song of Solomon 3:7**).