



# Biblical Manhood

Remembering Our Legacy, Fulfilling Our Destiny

July/August, 2015

## Giving You All My Love

In **Song of Solomon 7:7-10**, we saw the joy of relationship. By 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.

**Song of Solomon 7:11-14** records Abishag's response to Solomon's passion. She expresses her love and desire for Solomon in these verses. She longs to be alone with Him. She reciprocates the passion that Solomon had expressed.

Three things characterize her response:

### **The Invitation (7:11)**

She extends an invitation to Solomon. She wants to go on a trip to spend a night away from all the busyness of their lives. For the first time in the Song of Solomon, Abishag takes the initiative in requesting a time for romance, "Come, my beloved, let us go

out into the fields and lodge in the villages" (**SOS 7:11**). Solomon had previously initiated the romance (**SOS 2:10**). However, in response to his passionate words, she reaches out to him.

Abishag invites him to leave the city and its grind to go away with her to the country. She longed for a time to be alone with him. Her heart's desire was private, personal time with Solomon.

Notice again that she refers to him as "my beloved." She declares her love for Solomon. At the same time, she declares that she has a relationship to him – a relationship where he possesses her and she possesses him. His passionate words in **Song of Solomon 7:1-9** have reminded her of this and stirred her passion and love for him.

### **The Desire (7:12)**

The trip that Abishag invites him on is not solely just to get away. She has something in mind. She states her reason in **7:12**, "Let us go out early to

the vineyards and see whether the vines have budded, whether the grape blossoms have opened and the pomegranates are in bloom. There I will give you my love.”

She desires to make love to Solomon. She longs to express the passion that she has for him. This trip is an opportunity for her to make known her love and passion for Solomon. Listen to the power of her words, “There I will give you my love.” In that place, she will express her love and passion for Solomon. She yearned to bring him real pleasure.

I believe that the place she wants to take him was where they first fell in love. In this verse, Abishag talks about the vineyards out in the country. She worked in a vineyard out in the country (SOS 1:6). This is where she met Solomon and where they fell in love. She desired to go back to that place and rekindle their romance and love.

Notice also that she says that she wanted to go out “early” to the vineyard with Solomon. This reveals that she wanted to spend as much time with him as possible. It was to be an unhurried time of fellowship with Solomon. They weren’t going to hurry but enjoy time alone with each other.

### **The Provision (7:13)**

Abishag has even made provision for this trip, “The mandrakes give forth fragrance and beside our doors are all choice fruits, new as well as old, which I have laid up for you, O my beloved” (SOS 7:13). She refers here to a familiar eastern custom. Houses would have shelves above the inner doors. People would place fruits and flowers on these shelves.

In anticipation of this trip, Abishag had everything prepared. She had a variety of fruits on these shelves for Solomon to enjoy. She would provide all kinds of delicacies for Solomon.

She also had “mandrakes.” Mandrakes are whitish green flowers with yellow apples about the size of nutmegs. The mandrake gives off a pleasing and potent fragrance. It was renowned in these days for its aphrodisiac qualities and its power to aid conception. The yellow apples of the mandrakes were called “love fruit.” The eating of these apples was understood to stir up sexual desire and passion and to help a woman conceive.

In this verse, we see that the woman has made full provision for their time together. She has taken actions to provide for their time together. With creativity and sensitivity, she prepares a time and a place for them to be alone

and to share their love and passion for each other. She treasured up what was near and dear to him in order to enhance their love and passion.

### **Application To Marriage**

- *This text reveals that a couple has to make time for each other.* In these verses, one can see the great need of making time for one another. A growing marriage has times of getting alone and being together. You might not be able to take a trip like this couple. Yet, it is crucial that you carve out times to be alone and to be together. These times are worth the effort and will yield fruit in your marriage. Pray that God will help you carve out these times, even if it's only a few minutes.
- *This text teaches that creativity and sensitivity are twin essentials for a growing, satisfying marriage.* Dullness and boredom can stunt and even destroy a marriage. A couple has to work at the relationship with creativity and sensitivity. It's interesting that Abishag made preparation for their time away. Her preparation was creative and sensitive to Solomon. Ask God to help you be creative and sensitive in your dealings with your spouse.

### **Application To Our Relationship To Jesus Christ**

- *This text teaches us our need to be with Jesus day by day.* In the same way as Abishag needed and desired time alone with Solomon, we need private, personal communion with Jesus Christ. We must be diligent to make time for Him each day. We must take advantage of every opportunity to learn from, commune with, and worship Jesus Christ. At the same time, we must guard our times alone with Him. We have to have a "sanctified viciousness" concerning this time alone with Him. It will mean learning to say "No" to some things, even good things.
- *This text calls us to pray for the grace to love Him with all of our hearts.* We must say to Christ, "I will give you my love." Yet, we cannot do this apart from divine help. We are to pray that we can give all our love to Jesus. We are to ask for help so that we have no room left and nothing left to give any rival in our lives. We must focus on His love for us and allow that to fuel our love and passion for Him. What other response can we make to such love?

# World Prayer Plan

## September

- 1-Poland-The Lost
- 2-Portugal
- 3-Puerto Rico
- 4-Qatar
- 5-Reunion
- 6-Romania-The Church
- 7-Romania-The Lost
- 8-Russia-The Church
- 9-Russia-The Lost
- 10-Russia-Mission Efforts
- 11-Russia-Freedom and Peace
- 12-Russia-Spiritual Awakening
- 13-Rwanda
- 14-Western Sahara
- 15-Samoa
- 16-San Marino
- 17-Sao Tome
- 18-Principe
- 19-Saudi Arabia-The Church
- 20-Saudi Arabia-Open Doors
- 21-Saudi Arabia-Persecution
- 22-Senegal
- 23-Seychelles
- 24-Sierra Leone
- 25-Singapore
- 26-Slovenia
- 27-Solomon Islands
- 28-Somalia
- 29-South Africa-The Church
- 30-South Africa-The Lost

## October

- 1-South Africa-Political Future
- 2-Spain-The Church
- 3-Spain-The Lost

- 4-Sri Lanka
- 5-St. Helena and Ascension Island
- 6-St. Kittis and Nevis
- 7-St. Lucia
- 8-St. Pierre and Miquelon
- 9-St. Vincent
- 10-Sudan-The Church
- 11-Sudan-Persecuted Believers
- 12-Suriname
- 13-Svalbard
- 14-Swaziland
- 15-Sweden
- 16-Switzerland
- 17-Syria
- 18-Tajikstan
- 19-Tanzania-The Church
- 20-Tanzania-The Lost
- 21-Thailand-The Church
- 22-Thailand-The Lost
- 23-Togo
- 24-Tokelau Island
- 25-Tonga
- 26-Trinidad and Tobago
- 27-Tunisia
- 28-Turkey-The Church
- 29-Turkey-The Lost
- 30-Turkey-Mission Efforts
- 31-Turkmenistan

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