



Biblical Manhood

Remembering Our Legacy, Fulfilling Our Destiny

November/December, 2013

The Beauty Of The Bride

In **Song of Solomon 3**, the focus is on the bridegroom. All eyes are fixed on Solomon as he comes to Jerusalem to marry Abishag. He receives all the attention in this chapter. In **Song of Solomon 4**, the focus now shifts to the bride. Solomon speaks throughout the chapter on one subject. What is his subject? It is the beauty of his bride!

The marriage is now over. They have become husband and wife. All the commotion of the day is complete. At last, the bride and the groom are alone. This chapter is a personal and private moment between the two of them.

In this chapter, we see again that it has a double application. First, it applies to marriage. This text reveals truth about the love between a man and a woman. Yet, it also applies to the believer's relationship to Christ. It shows us the

affection of Christ for His believing people.

In **Song of Solomon 4:1-7**, Solomon praises the beauty of his bride. He praises her in ways that we might not

immediately appreciate. However, in these days, it was a beautiful, touching description of his bride.

The groom begins by saying, "How beautiful you are, my darling, how beautiful you are!" (4:1). The second line could be rendered, "Wow, how beautiful you are!" Her beauty strikes Solomon. He cannot take his eyes off her. He is overwhelmed, consumed, and pleased by her beauty.

This leads Solomon to list his bride's attributes. He focuses on seven things that make his bride beautiful.

Her Eyes

"Your eyes are *like* doves behind your veil" (4:1). Mascara, eye shadow, colored lenses, and other aids are often used to enhance the eyes – the brows, the lashes, the lids, and the pupils. This woman did not need any of these. God had given her gentle, trusting eyes.

Her Hair

"Your hair is like a flock of goats that have descended from Mount Gilead" (4:1). He next looks at her long black hair,

possibly as she unties it and lets it cascade down her shoulders. It has an attractive, dark sheen. It reminds Solomon of a flock of black goats descending a green backdrop on the rolling hills of Gilead.

Her Teeth

“Your teeth are like a flock of *newly* shorn ewes which have come up from *their* washing, all of which bear twins, and not one among them has lost her young” (4:2). Solomon says that her teeth are like shorn and washed sheep – they glisten white! The mention of “twins” indicates symmetry. All her teeth are perfectly aligned. She has not lost one of them. This was unusual since there were no dentists in this day! Her smile was radiant and sparkling.

Her Lips

“Your lips are like a scarlet thread, and your mouth is lovely” (4:3). Solomon notices the fullness, the redness, and shapeliness of her lips. The eyes may be the gateway to the soul, but the lips are definitely the gateway to sensuality.

The Sides of Her Face

“Your temples are like slices of pomegranates, behind your veil” (4:3). This includes the bride’s cheeks. When a pomegranate is cut in two, it reveals a red interior. She is healthy and full of color,

without the aid of rouge or any other cosmetics.

Her Neck

“Your neck is like the tower of David, built with rows of stones on which are hung a thousand shields, all round the shields of the mighty men” (4:4). This building was a tall, straight, elegantly built tower where shields would be hung. He compares it to her neck – long, slender, elegant, and decorated with necklaces of silver or gold discs.

Her Cleavage

“Your two breasts are like two fawns, twins of a gazelle, which feed among the lilies” (4:5). Below her neck, he can see her cleavage, her chest. This is not something that we would normally speak about perhaps. However, we need to remember that the two are alone and about to consummate their marriage. He is thinking of the gentleness, the softness, of baby deer, lying with their legs tucked under their bodies and their heads against the lilies. He is describing her as gentle and soft.

After this description of his bride, Solomon desires to consummate the marriage. The time of anticipation is over. It is the time for love’s consummation, “Until the cool of the day, when shadows flee away, I will go my way to the

mountain of myrrh and to the hills of frankincense” (4:6). This passionate desire is fueled by her beauty, “You are altogether beautiful, my darling, and there is no blemish in you” (4:7).

Application To Marriage

- *This is a powerful vision of a godly man’s eyes.* A godly man’s eyes see the perfections of his wife. He doesn’t focus on the flaws. The most of beautiful of women have their flaws. The godly man doesn’t focus on them. He focuses on what is beautiful – both outwardly and inwardly. Pray that God will help you see the beauty, not the flaws, of your spouse.
- *This is how a wedding night should be.* In too many instances, people cannot be patient; they indulge in sexual sin before marriage. They spoil both the anticipation and consummation of the wedding night. The Bible says, “Wait, it will be worth it!” If it is too late to wait, repent of sexual sin and find forgiveness and a fresh start through Christ.
- *A godly man appreciates his wife.* It is apparent how thankful Solomon is for his wife. He appreciates the wife that God has given to him. Express your appreciation for you wife. Ask God to help you discern the ways that you can show that appreciation to her.

Application To Our Relationship With Christ

- *This text shows us how Christ sees us.* The language used in these verses point to Christ’s desire and affection for His church. He sees us clothed in His righteousness. We do sin. We do fail. We do have blemishes in our lives. Yet, Christ’s sees our beauty – washed in His blood, clothed in His righteousness. Christ accepts you and he loves you with all His being. By nature, there is no beauty in us. There is nothing about us to commend the love of God toward us. Both at heart and outward appearance, we are evil. Yet, we are beautiful to Christ! He sees us clothed in His righteousness. He sees what we will be one day. In Him and in His eyes, we are complete and perfect!
- *Jesus looks forward to the consummation of our faith.* Jesus Christ died to make us holy (**Ephesians 5:22-27**). He shed His blood to transform us into godly, pure people. He is in the process of doing that now. Jesus looks forward to the day when He comes for His people and completely transforms them, finishing what He started on the Cross (**1 John 3:2**).
- *This passage is filled with hope and comfort for you.* You may clearly see your sins, your faults, and all your

blemishes. However, take heart – Jesus sees you as beautiful, forgiven, and accepted. He is working to transform you. He is one day coming to finish this work and completely change you. Don't give in to discouragement. Don't sink in despair. Don't see yourself as hopeless. Jesus sees you as beautiful. He is at work in you and He looks forward to the day when you are utterly changed and made completely holy.

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 – The Persecuted Church
- 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 -The Lost

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