

## Episode #4-10 Song of Solomon 6 - The Desperate Plan

I. The “Song of Solomon” is written in the form of a drama in five acts. It tells a story about a love triangle between a country girl, her country boy lover to whom she is betrothed, and Solomon, who tries to steal her away from him. In it we see an example of the kind of love and loyalty we should have toward God, and of the kind of love He has for us.

II. Last time, we saw that Solomon, on the way home from his latest wedding, had seen the country girl and fallen for her, taking her into his train as he is heading back for Jerusalem. He arrived to much admiration, though no one thought anything of the new bride, Solomon had made them so common. Now the girl’s shepherd betrothed risked himself to come see her.

III. Finishing Act 3. Song of Solomon 4:1-5:1. The Girl and the Shepherd Meet in Jerusalem.

A. V.9. She has put heart into him (given him courage by her constancy). He mentions one eye because it was customary to unveil one eye during conversation.

B. V.10. Her endearments are sweet to him. Notice: similar to her language.

C. V.11. Figures from nature. Lebanon is a forest, with pleasant forest smells.

D. V.12. Her chastity. She has kept her virginity, which makes her fruit precious.

E. V.13. Continues the figure of her as a garden. Orchard in Hebrew=a paradise.

F. V.14. She is full of spice plants and frankincense trees.

G. V.15. The fountain is a garden fountain, that all gardens of the time had.

H. V.16. Now a desperate plan: they must consummate their marriage this night.

1. A betrothal was considered official, and required a divorce to break.

2. It was frowned upon for a betrothed couple to sleep together before marriage, but was not sinful, since they were legally bound.

3. A betrothal could be broken off by either the man or the woman’s father (I Corinthians 7), but after marriage, only the husband could write a bill of divorce (Deuteronomy 24:1). While they are only betrothed, her brothers could be induced to break their engagement. If they consummate their marriage, only her shepherd could break the relationship. If they consummate the relationship now, her brothers can do nothing, and Solomon will be stuck.

I. V.1. He agrees to this plan, and they consummate the relationship. The court ladies who helped them agree with this plan, and encourage them. Couples were supposed to wait until the adults (parents) agreed they were both ready to come together in marriage. In this case, the only adults are the court ladies, and they seem to approve.

J. Note: in this young man risking himself to enter into Solomon’s very house and save his beloved by consummating a relationship with her, we see a picture of Christ, Who entered this world (the enemy’s camp) and gave His life to consummate a relationship with us, saving us from a doom we could not escape ourselves. When another (Satan) claimed us, He entered into the enemy’s camp to redeem us for His Own. We too are blessed to have such a loving and sacrificing Shepherd!

IV. Beginning Act 4. Song of Solomon 5:2-7. The Dream.

A. V.2. The next day, her shepherd gone, she repeats a dream she had that night to the court ladies. She dreamed of her beloved knocking at her door at night.

B. V.3. She has already undressed for the night and washed herself. She does not want to be bothered to get dressed and dirty herself to come and let him in.

- C. V.4. She sees her beloved take his hand away from the hole in the door, and her hard heart softens towards him. Notice: there is an open hole to reach in and unlock and open the door! Shows the safety of the time in Israel.
- D. V.5. She gets up to let him in. There is myrrh on the door handles. It seems back then, if one came to your door and you were not home, he would leave myrrh on the door to let you know he had been there as kind of a calling card.
- E. V.6. She opened the door to let him in, but he was gone. Her soul (emotions) fails with longing for him. She calls him, but he is no longer there.
- F. V.7. Her dream turns into a nightmare. She is horrified that her beloved came to her and she was not ready to let him in. She runs around the city, desperately seeking him. The watchmen find her and mistreat her, taking away her veil (a grave insult).
- G. Lesson: is your greatest fear that the Lord might come for you, and your love would have cooled to the place where you would not be ready, and by the time you realized it, He was gone?

V. Conclusion: The girl's shepherd betrothed risks himself to come to her into the enemy's camp, just as Christ gave Himself to save us likewise in the enemy's camp of this fallen world. They consummate their relationship in Jerusalem, under the enemy's (Solomon's) nose. The girl's greatest nightmare is that her love would come to her, and she would no longer care. Do we feel the same way about our love, our Lord Jesus Christ?