

COMMENTARY

SONG OF SOLOMON:

BACKGROUND OF THE BOOK:

This book was written by Solomon between 970-930 B.C. It is a love song and is typical of such songs in that culture. Herein is found a poem full of pictures from the country and the time of the poem is spring. It celebrates the beauty and wonder of human love. There is a pure and open delight in the physical attraction which reminds us that God has created such things to be enjoyed within the framework that He has given.

Chapter 1:

The Song begins with a dialogue between the bride and the women of Jerusalem and is then followed by the conversation of the bride and groom. The bride's love for her husband along with her desire to be with him is found pleasing by the women of Jerusalem. The bride and groom discuss their meeting in the countryside and how wonderful their life together is.

Chapter 2:

The bride continues to think on the happiness of their love. The groom calls for her to join him in a walk through the beauty of the countryside.

Chapter 3:

The bride finds herself alone and goes in search of her groom and expresses great joy at finding him. She is then caught up in the glory and riches of her groom.

Chapter 4:

The groom praises and adores the beauty of his bride. Using phrases of their culture and terms found to be complimentary, he comments on her exquisite form and appearance.

Chapter 5:

This chapter finds the bride ready for bed and alone. When the groom does arrive, she tarries too long, and upon opening the door, she finds no one there. Once again she goes in search of him, and being found again by the guards, is this time beaten. She continues in her search and calls upon the other women to help her find her husband.

Chapter 6:

The women question as to where her groom has gone and she replies. The groom then praises her for her beauty and states that she is in a league all by herself.

Chapter 7:

The king continues in praise of the beauty of his bride and cannot tear his eyes away. His bride loves him more than anything else and is happy and content to be his.

Chapter 8:

The bride expresses her frustration at not being able to publicly display her affection for her beloved. They are finally together and find that there is nothing that can destroy true love. She expresses her willingness to give to her husband willingly and not from a sense of compulsion or duty.

SONG OF SOLOMON:

Chapter 1:

1. Who composed this Song of Songs?
2. What information did the woman desire from her lover? (see vs. 7)
3. In verse 8, how does the lover refer to his beloved?

Chapter 2:

4. What was Solomon's banner over his beloved?
5. What is not to be aroused or wakened until it desires?
6. What did Solomon want his darling to do, according to verse 10?

Chapter 3:

7. What was the woman going to search for?
8. What is not to be aroused or wakened, until it desires?

Chapter 4:

9. How do we know that the woman had a full set of white teeth?
10. What did Solomon not find in his beautiful darling?
11. What of Solomon's, had the woman stolen?

Chapter 5:

12. What was the woman hesitant to do, according to verse 3?
13. What did she find, when she opened the door for Solomon?
14. Among how many, was Solomon outstanding, according to his bride?

Chapter 6:

15. Where had Solomon gone?
16. How did the maidens, queens and concubines react to this woman?
17. Of what group of people was this woman? (see verse 13)

STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 7:

18. What was the king held captive by?
19. Who did this woman belong to?
20. Where did she want to go with Solomon, in verse 11?

Chapter 8:

21. What is not to be aroused or awakened, until it desires?
22. What cannot be quenched or washed away?
23. What was she willing to give, according to verse 12?

TEST OVER THE BOOKS OF POETRY:

Answer the following correctly for 5 points each, except for the last which is worth a possible 10 points.

JOB:

1. During what time, did the events in this book, occur?
2. Who is the main character?
3. Name his 3 friends.
4. Summarize the book.

PSALMS:

5. Who is the main writer of this book?
6. Name one other writer.
7. What is a Psalm?
8. Name 3 types of Psalm.

PROVERBS:

9. Who was the primary writer of this book?
10. What is a proverb?
11. Why was this book written?

ECCLESIASTES:

12. Who was the main writer of this book?
13. Around what time was this book written?
14. What is the book about?
15. What is the conclusion of the matter?

SONG OF SOLOMON:

16. Who was this book written by?

17. Summarize the book.

• 18. What can be learned from this book?

OVERVIEW:

19. Of what benefit are these books to Christians today?