

Song of Solomon Commentaries

ECCLESIASTES

ISAIAH

SONG OF SOLOMON RESOURCES

Commentaries, Sermons, Illustrations, Devotionals

Introduction: The discerning reader should be aware that **many** of the commentaries on Song of Solomon interpret this book **allegorically** (See **Interpretative Approach**). The "danger" is that **allegory** searches for a hidden spiritual meaning that transcends the **literal** sense of the sacred text. For example, the respected commentator Matthew Henry (1662-1714) states that the Song of Solomon "is an allegory" and goes on to add "that after the title of the book (Song of Solomon 1:1) we have Christ and His church, Christ and a believer, expressing their esteem for each other." This is not the literal, natural meaning but an allegorical interpretation which begs the question of whose "allegory" or hidden meaning is correct, a problem which is not faced when one interprets the text literally. Commentaries that take a predominantly allegorical approach to the Song of Solomon are (with a few exceptions) not included in this list.

It is also notable that there is a paucity of preaching on this book. I have tried to include sermons that interpret the text literally, but as I read through or listened to these sermons (a sampling), there were frequent points of disagreement. Therefore be very discerning as you read/listen to sermons on the Song of Solomon. For example, out of my respect for the "prince of preachers" all of Spurgeon's sermons are included even though they are predominantly non-literal.

Babylonian love poem, eighteenth century BC:
"My beloved knows my heart
My beloved is sweet as honey
She is as fragrant to the nose as wine
The fruit of my feelings."

CHART SUMMARY

of the Song of Songs

SONG OF SOLOMON			
Union and Communion			
The Courtship (Falling in Love) Song 1:2-3:5	The Wedding (United in Love) Song 3:6-5:1	The Maturing Marriage (Struggling and Growing in Love) Song 5:2-8:14	
Fostering of Love	Fulfillment of Love	Frustration of Love	Faithfulness of Love
Falling in Love	United in Love	Divided in Love	Devoted in Love
Cultivating Love		Acclaiming Love	
Courtship Before the Marriage	Procession for and Consummation of the Marriage	The Honeymoon is Over! Song 5:2-6:13	The Marriage Deepens Love Matures Song 7:1-8:14
Chief Speaker: The Bride ("Darling")	Chief Speaker: The Groom ("Beloved")	Chief Speaker: Both	Chief Speaker: "Duet"
Theme - The joy and intimacy of love within a committed marriage covenant.			
Song of Solomon foreshadows Christ, the Bridegroom's relationship with His Bride, the Church. (Eph 5:32-note, Rev 19:7-8-note)			

Date - Circa 950-965BC

Time Period estimated at about 1 year

Before Solomon plunged into gross immorality and idolatry

(Compare only 140 women in Song 6:8-note with 1Ki 11:1-4, 5-7, 8, 9-10)

Adapted from [Charles Swindoll's book chart](#)

SONG OF SOLOMON

Commentary

Literal Interpretation

Bruce Hurt, MD

- Song of Songs - Introduction
- Song of Songs - Interpretative Approach
- Song of Songs - The Speakers
- Song of Songs - The Timing
- Song of Songs - An Outline
- Song of Songs - Subtitles
- Song of Songs - The Language
- Song of Songs - Key Images and Key Words
- Song of Songs - The Setting
- Song of Songs - The Hebrew Language

SONG OF SONGS

Verse by Verse

- Song of Songs 1:1 Commentary
- Song of Songs 1:2 Commentary
- Song of Songs 1:3 Commentary
- Song of Songs 1:4 Commentary
- Song of Songs 1:5 Commentary
- Song of Songs 1:6 Commentary
- Song of Songs 1:7 Commentary
- Song of Songs 1:8 Commentary
- Song of Songs 1:9 Commentary
- Song of Songs 1:10 Commentary
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- Song of Songs 8:10 Commentary
- Song of Songs 8:11 Commentary
- Song of Songs 8:12 Commentary
- Song of Songs 8:13 Commentary
- Song of Songs 8:14 Commentary

DANNY AKIN

SONG OF SOLOMON

CAVEAT - In a secondary sense, the account may also be considered as a type of the love of Christ and His church, the “Bride of Christ” [cp Ep 5:22-33; Rev 21:2; 22:17]. **This analogy should not be pressed too far**, of course, as the book should primarily be studied in accord with its own clear intent, that of describing and honoring the God-ordained union of man and woman in true love and marriage. - Morris

- [Christ in Song of Songs – Have a Passion for Your King!](#)
- [God’s Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 01\) – Introduction – Song of Solomon 1](#)
- [God’s Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 02\) – Song of Solomon 1:1-8](#)
- [How to Begin a Divine Love Story – Song of Songs 1:1-4](#)
- [When a Godly Girl is Having a Bad Day, What’s a Godly Husband To Do? – Song of Songs 1:5-8](#)
- [Christ in Song of Songs 1:5–8: The Security of Knowing My Shepherd-King](#)
- [God’s Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 03\) – Song of Solomon 1:9-14](#)
- [There Is Power in Praising Your Partner – Song of Songs 1:9-14](#)
- [Christ in the Song of Songs 1:9-14: The Delights of Knowing My King](#)
- [God’s Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 04\) – Song of Solomon 1:15 – 2:7](#)
- [The Art of Intimacy – Song of Songs 1:15-2:7](#)
- [Christ in the Song of Songs 1:15–2:7: Resting in the Shadow of the King](#)
- [God’s Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 06\) – Song of Solomon 2:8-17](#)

- [Spring Fever: Getting Ready for the Big Day – Song of Songs 2:8-17](#)
- [Christ in the Song of Songs 2:8–17: The Invitations of the King](#)
- [Making the Most of Your Marriage \(Part 07\) – Men are From Earth and Women are From Earth – Song of Solomon 2:15](#)
- [God's Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 05\) – Song of Solomon 2:15](#)
- [Men Are from Earth and Women Are from Earth \(Part 1\): So Deal with the Dangerous Foxes – Song of Songs 2:15](#)
- [Men Are from Earth and Women Are from Earth \(Part 2\): So Deal with the Different Foxes – Song of Songs 2:15](#)
- [God's Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 07\) – Song of Solomon 3:1-5](#)
- [Is He Really the Man of My Dreams? – Song of Songs 3:1-5](#)
- [Christ in the Song of Songs 3:1–5: I Will Seek My King](#)
- [God's Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 08\) – Song of Solomon 3:6-11](#)
- [The Return of the King: What a Great Day for a Wedding – Song of Songs 3:6-11](#)
- [Christ in Song of Songs 3:6–11: Looking Forward to the Return of the King](#)
- [God's Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 09\) – Song of Solomon 4:1 – 5:1](#)
- [The Beauty and Delights of the Christian Bedroom – Song of Songs 4:1-5:1](#)
- [Christ in Song of Songs 4:1-5:1 – The King's Beautiful Bride](#)
- [God's Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 10\) – Song of Solomon 5:2-8](#)
- [What Do You Do When the Honeymoon Comes to an End? – Song of Songs 5:2-8](#)
- [Christ in Song of Songs 5:2–8: See the King Who Pursues His Bride](#)
- [The Marks of a Redeemed and Reconciled Relationship – Song of Songs 5:9-6:10](#)
- [God's Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 11\) – Song of Solomon 5:9 – 6:13](#)
- [Christ in Song of Songs 5:9–6:10: There Is No King Like My King](#)
- [A Love That Lasts Forever – Song of Songs 8:5-14](#)
- [The Kind of Man Every Woman Wants – Song of Songs 6:11-7:10](#)
- [Christ in the Song of Songs 6:11–7:10: How the King Sees His Bride](#)
- [Song of Solomon: God's Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 12\) – Song of Solomon 6:13-7:10](#)
- [The Kind of Woman Every Man Wants – Song of Songs 7:10-8:4](#)
- [God's Wives Club – Song of Solomon 7:10-8:7](#)
- [God's Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 13\) – Song of Solomon 7:10 – 8:4](#)
- [Christ in the Song of Songs 7:10–8:4 — I Want to Go Home with My King!](#)
- [God's Manual for a Marvelous Marriage \(Part 14\) – Song of Solomon 8:5-14](#)

DON ANDERSON TEACHING NOTES SONG OF SOLOMON

Subtitled **A Practical Study of Song of Solomon**

[Click here for audios](#) that accompany each of the sets of teaching notes. His notes include some verse by verse discussion

[Song of Solomon Guide](#) - 24 pages in question and answer format

Teacher Notes: While these are lengthy, they are of variable quality as there are lots of stories and minimal true exposition of the Scripture - Caveat Emptor!

- [Song of Solomon Study 1](#) The Definition of Love – Ruth 1:14-18; 2:8-16; 3:1-11; 4:6-11 - 33 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 2](#) Make Full My Joy – Philippians 2:1-5 - 26 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 3](#) Introduction - 27 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 4](#) "Courtship" – Song of Solomon 1:1-2:17 - 51 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 5](#) "Commitment" – Song of Solomon 3:1-5:1 - 39 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 6](#) "Challenge" – Song of Solomon 5:2- 6:13 - 46 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 7](#) "Communion" – Song of Solomon 7:1-8:14 - 40 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 8](#) "Unconditional Love" – 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 & Luke 10:25-37 - 40 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 9](#) "Free Forgiveness" – Matthew 18:21-35 - 38 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 10](#) "Learning to Serve & Give" – Mark 10:35-45 - 33 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 11](#) "Faithful to Finish" – Hebrews 12:1-17 - 35 pages
- [Song of Solomon Study 12](#) "Our Triumphant Lord" – John 5:19-29 - 34 pages

Study Notes - note these are of variable quality as there are lots of stories and minimal true exposition of the Scripture - Caveat Emptor!

- [Song of Solomon Study 1](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 2](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 3](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 4](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 5](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 6](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 7](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 8](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 9](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 10](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 11](#)
- [Song of Solomon Study 12](#)

BIBLE.ORG RESOURCES

Resources that Reference Song of Solomon

Hint: Do a "control + find" when you open a "hit" and search Song as well as the full name. This may take some practice but is guaranteed to yield some "gems"!

- [Song of Solomon 1](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8](#)

BRIAN BELL Sermon Notes

He tends to interpret the text literally.

In his introduction Bell says "Some say Solomon wrote Ecclesiastes for the Inquiring Mind, Proverbs for the Obedient Will and Song of Solomon for the Loving Heart! Which is better? – Neither one! – We need all 3 for a balanced life!"

- Song Of Solomon 1:1 [The Inner Room!](#)
- Song Of Solomon 1 ["Draw me away & we will run after you!"](#)
- Song Of Solomon 2:1-3:5 ["Courtship!"](#)
- Song Of Solomon 3:6-5:1 ["Holy Matrimony!"](#)
- Song Of Solomon 5:2-16 ["Their 1st Marital Problem!"](#)
- Song Of Solomon 6 ["Returning to her 1st Love!"](#)
- Song Of Solomon 7 ["How Beautiful!"](#)
- Song Of Solomon 8 ["Nothing shall separate us from the Love of God!"](#)

CAMBRIDGE BIBLE FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES Commentary on Song of Solomon

Interprets the text literally.

- [Song of Solomon 1 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8 Commentary](#)

ADAM CLARKE

Commentary

Clarke interprets the text literally.

- [Song of Solomon 1 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8 Commentary](#)

G. LLOYD CARR

Audio - 4 Introductory Lectures

These audios are by G. Lloyd Carr who is also the author of a respected commentary on **The Song of Solomon** in the Tyndale Old Testament Commentary series (#2 ranked commentary in list of "Commentary Recommendations" below).

Rosscup writes that "This commentary is well-respected. Carr, evangelical, is very learned, using scholarly sources, yet lucid in his lengthy introduction, statement of theme (two people celebrating a literal love relationship), and verse by verse commenting, He often has something quite helpful."

- [Song of Songs 1 Introduction](#)
- [Song of Songs 2 Introduction](#)
- [Song of Songs 3 Introduction](#)
- [Song of Songs 4 Introduction](#)
- Borrow his [Solomon Commentary](#)

CENTURY BIBLE COMMENTARY

Song of Songs

Note: Comments are lucid, generally literal and generally verse by verse.

- [Song of Solomon 1 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5 Commentary](#)

- [Song of Solomon 6 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8 Commentary](#)

THOMAS CONSTABLE

Expository Notes

Constable interprets the text literally

- [Song of Solomon 1](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8](#)

COMMENTARY RECOMMENDATIONS

Song of Solomon

- (A) **Keith Mathison** - [Top 5 Commentaries on The Song of Songs - Ligonier Ministries](#)

Mathison writes "It is somewhat difficult to recommend a "Top 5" list on the Song of Songs because one's inclusion of commentaries in the list will largely depend on whether one takes an allegorical or non-allegorical approach to the book. The list below is based on my own non-allegorical approach to the book."

1. Tom Gledhill — The Message of the Song of Songs (The Bible Speaks Today, 1994). ([Amazon](#)) Tom Gledhill's commentary on the Song of Songs is accessible to any reader, but the fact that it is accessible does not mean that it is simplistic. In fact, in places it is truly profound and insightful. Gledhill sees the book for what it is - a poetic exploration of human love that points beyond itself to the Creator and Redeemer. Very highly recommended.

2. Lloyd Carr — BORROW [The Song of Solomon \(Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries, 1984\)](#). Lloyd Carr's contribution to the Tyndale series of commentaries is a very helpful work on the Song of Solomon. Like Gledhill, Carr takes a non-allegorical approach to the book, and provides numerous insights. Borrow [The Song of Solomon : an introduction and commentary](#)

3. Richard S. Hess — BORROW - [Song of Songs \(Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms, 2005\)](#). ([Amazon](#)) Among the more advanced commentaries written from an evangelical perspective, the work by Richard Hess is probably the most helpful. In addition to careful exegesis, Hess provides insightful reflections on the theology of the book. This is something missing in too many commentaries. Highly recommended.

4. Tremper Longman — BORROW [Song of Songs](#) (New International Commentary on the Old Testament, 2001). ([Amazon](#)) For those seeking a thorough exegetical commentary, Longman's work in the NICOT series is a good resource. He approaches the book as a poem (or more precisely an anthology of poems) about the male-female relationship, which itself is analogous to the relationship between God and His people.

5. Iain Provan — Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs (NIV Application Commentary, 2001). ([Amazon](#)) I have already mentioned this volume in the post on Ecclesiastes. The section of the book on the Song of Songs should prove just as helpful to preachers and others looking for practical application. ([Keith Mathison](#))

- (B) [Best Commentary on Song of Songs - Best Commentaries](#)

- (C) **James Rosscup** has the following reviews...

Deere, Jack S. "Song of Songs," **BORROW [Bible Knowledge Commentary - Old Testament](#)** - A well-studied conservative treatment following the two character view, Solomon and a woman. He is clear, explains most matters that need explaining, and shows good expertise in the Hebrew word meaning and movement of the book. He develops the beauty of a love relationship as God intends it.

Borrow [Glickman, S. Craig. A Song for Lovers. Downers Grove: IVP, 1976](#) - After he wrote his Th. M. thesis at Dallas Seminary in 1974 on "The Unity of the Song of Solomon", he wrote this. He gives his own translation, paraphrase and practical comments on the love relationship within marriage. The is generally done well.

- (D) **Below are commentaries recommended by the Third Millennium Ministries...**

Carr, G. L. (1984). Vol. 19: Song of Solomon: An Introduction and Commentary. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Gledhill, Tom. (1994). The Message of the Song of Songs. The Bible Speaks Today. IVP Academic.

Hess, Richard S. (2005). Song of Songs. Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms. Baker Academic.

Longman III, Tremper. (2008) Dictionary of the Old Testament: Wisdom, Poetry & Writings (The IVP Bible Dictionary Series). IVP Academic.

Longman III, Tremper.. (2001). Song of Songs. New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Eerdmans Pub Co.

Longman III, Tremper., and Garland, David E. (2008). Proverbs-Isaiah. Expositor's Bible Commentary. Zondervan; Revised edition.

Provan, Iain. (2001). Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs. NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

- (E) James Dennison - [What Should I Read on the Song of Solomon- - Kerux 8-2 \(Sep 1993\)](#)

OTHER COMMENTARIES THAT CAN BE BORROW - Be a Berean as I have not reviewed these and some may be allegorical. If you encounter one that is pure allegory please let me know by email. Thank you.

- BORROW [The Song of Songs and Lamentations : A Study, Modern Translation and Commentary](#) by Gordis, Robert,
- BORROW [Solomon on sex](#) by Dillow, Joseph C
- [The Song of Songs](#) by Ginsburg, Christian D. (Christian David), 1831-1914
- [The Song of Solomon : with introduction and notes](#) by Harper, Andrew, 1844-
- BORROW [Song of songs](#) by Pope, Marvin H (Anchor Bible - not my favorite!)

JAMES DENNISON, JR

Song of Solomon

Structure and Biblical Theology - Northwest Theological Seminary

1. [Biblical Theology and Structure](#)
or download [HERE](#) (13.8 MB)
2. [Interpretation 1.1 - 2.17](#)
or download [HERE](#) (11.5 MB)
3. [Interpretation 3.1 - 5.1](#)
or download [HERE](#) (12.0 MB)
4. [Interpretation 5.2 - 8.14](#)

- or download [HERE](#) (13.1 MB)
5. [Wasf Up! \(And Down!\)](#)
or download [HERE](#) (7.2 MB)
6. [Crux Interpretum: Hard Passages in Solomon's Song](#)
or download [HERE](#) (13.8 MB)
7. [Lecture handouts in PDF format available here](#) (658 KB)

JOHN DUMMELOW

Commentary on the Bible

Song of Solomon

Literal Interpretation

Introduction: At the first blush we are surprised to find in the Bible a poem on human love. But we must remember that the mutual attraction of the sexes is of God's ordaining. So far from being intrinsically evil, it contains for both parties an immeasurable possibility of blessing. And the love which is here sung is ordered, regulated, legitimate. The imagery is too suggestive, and the description of physical charms too minute, for our taste, but it was produced by an Oriental for Orientals. More reticence does not necessarily imply truer purity. No doubt we should have welcomed a clear recognition of the intellectual, ideal, and spiritual side of marriage, but it would be a mistake to argue that the poet was a stranger to this better part. And such love as [Song of Solomon 8:7](#) describes is based on broader foundations than those supplied by mere sensuous charms alone.

Again, whilst it is admitted that the poem was not meant to be understood either typically or allegorically, all true human love is, in the Apostle's sense of the word, a mystery (Ephesians 5:28-33) which carries the Christian's mind upward to the union of the soul with Christ. Sensuous thoughts and images are never to hold us prisoners. The earthly is a steppingstone to the heavenly. Spenser tells us that, having in the green time of his youth composed two Hymns in praise of Love and Beauty, 'and finding that the same too much pleased those of the like age and disposition, which being too vehemently caried with that kind of affection, do rather sucke out poyson to their strong passion, then hony to their honest delight,' he afterwards resolved, 'by way of retractation, to reforme them, making, in stead of those two Hymnes of earthly or naturall love and beautie, two others of heavenly and celestiall.' In this he is a safe guide"

**All the glory and the grace of things,
Witchcraft of loveliness, wonder of flesh,
Fair symmetry of forms, deep harmonies
Of line and limb"are but as shadows cast
From hidden light of Beauty and of Love**

It would be a dull eye that missed the beauty of the poem. Its author responded immediately to every charm of Nature or of Art. Above all was his soul attuned to Nature. He carries us along with him into the open air, to the vineyards, the villages, the mountains. He awakes us at daybreak to catch the scent of the forest trees, to gather the apples and the pomegranates, to listen to the grateful plash of falling waters. How he loved the flocks of wild pigeons, the crocuses, the fields embroidered with lilies: His verse is fragrant with the breath of spring. And the soul of artistry within him was moved by the pomp of the court, the magnificence of a royal litter, the glittering whiteness of an ivory tower, the proud display of warriors' shields, the ornaments and costly dress of women. No other poem in the Bible can be compared with this. It still merits the title, prefixed by the men who inserted it in the Canon, 'The Song of Songs,' the most beautiful, the one that most nearly corresponds with the ideal of its class. At the first blush we are surprised to find in the Bible a poem on human love. But we must remember that the mutual attraction of the sexes is of God's ordaining. So far from being intrinsically evil, it contains for both parties an immeasurable possibility of blessing. And the love which is here sung is ordered, regulated, legitimate. The imagery is too suggestive, and the description of physical charms too minute, for our taste, but it was produced by an Oriental for Orientals. More reticence does not necessarily imply truer purity. No doubt we should have welcomed a clear recognition of the intellectual, ideal, and spiritual side of marriage, but it would be a mistake to argue that the poet was a stranger to this better part. And such love as Song of Solomon 8:7 describes is based on broader foundations than those supplied by mere sensuous charms alone. ([Read the entire Overview of Song of Solomon - Interesting!](#))

- [Song of Solomon 1](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4](#)

- [Song of Solomon 5](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8](#)

EASY ENGLISH COMMENTARY

Interesting simple translation and comments

- [Song of Songs: The Bible's Love Poem](#)
- [Song of Songs: How to Love God with All Your Heart](#)
- [Song of Songs: A Wonderful Song about Love](#)

ELLICOTT'S COMMENTARY

Song of Songs

- [Song of Solomon 1 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8 Commentary](#)

GENE GETZ

Song of Solomon

Life Essentials Study Bible

Click the videos below for Dr Getz's practical points related to the beautiful Song of Solomon

- [Song of Songs 1:1-4- Intimate Love](#)
- [Song of Songs 1:4-17 - Intimate Conversations](#)
- [Song of Songs 2:7-3:5 - Sexual Purity](#)
- [Song of Songs 4:1-15 Beautiful Words](#)
- [Song of Songs 4:16-5:9 - Idealism and Reality](#)
- [Song of Songs 5:10-16 - Learning to Love](#)
- [Song of Songs 6:1-7:9 - Keeping Love Alive](#)
- [Song of Songs 7:9-13 - Being Creative](#)
- [Song of Songs 8:5-14- A Unique Freedom](#)

GOTQUESTIONS

Related to the
Song of Solomon

- [Song of Solomon - Bible Survey](#)
- [Is Song of Solomon an allegory of God's love for Israel and-or Christ's love for the Church-](#)
- [Why is there an entire book of the Bible dedicated to romantic love-](#)
- [What should we learn from the life of Solomon-](#)
- [Who was the Shulammitte woman-](#)

- [What does it mean that the Shulammite had dark skin \(Song of Solomon 1-6\)-](#)
- [Who are the daughters of Jerusalem in Song of Solomon-](#)
- [What is the meaning of the foxes in Song of Solomon 2-15-](#)
- [What is the Rose of Sharon-](#)
- [Why does Solomon refer to his wife as his sister \(Song of Solomon 4-9\)-](#)
- [What are the mandrakes mentioned in the Bible-](#)
- [What is Eros love-](#)

DAVE GUZIK

Song of Solomon Commentary

Generally Literal Approach

- [Song of Solomon 1 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8 Commentary](#)

H A IRONSIDE

A Profile Song Of Solomon A Book Of Love

Generally Literal Interpretation

Rosscup: Many have considered this book **one of the most helpful** for a lighter, practical exposition. (Commentaries for Biblical Expositors: An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Works)

- [Song of Solomon 1 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6-7 Commentary](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8 Commentary](#)

JAMIESON, FAUSSET, BROWN

Commentary Critical and Explanatory

Not listed as his approach is not literal

KEIL & DELITZSCH

Commentary on the Old Testament

Caveat: Approach not always literal

- [Song of Solomon 1](#)

- [Song of Solomon 2](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8](#)

STEVE KRELOFF

Messianic Jewish Pastor

Expository Series on Song of Solomon. Literal approach. Practical Application

Comment - Although this is only available in Mp3, if you are interested in a serious study of the Song of Solomon, this 16 message series (plus 2 other messages related to "Biblical Marriage") is highly recommended. If you listen to nothing else, take 46 minutes to listen to Pastor Kreloff's well reasoned analysis in his introduction.

- [Introduction to the Song of Solomon](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:2-3a - The Wedding Day \(Pt 1\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:3b-8 The Wedding Day \(Pt 2\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:9-14 Words of Praise at the Wedding Banquet](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:15-2:7 The Wedding Night](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:8-15 Before You Get Married \(Pt 1\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:16-3:5 Before You Get Married \(Pt 2\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:6-4:6 The Consummation of Marriage \(Pt 1\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4:7-5:1 The Consummation of Marriage \(Pt 2\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:2-3 Sexual Adjustment in Marriage \(Pt 1\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:4-16 Sexual Adjustment in Marriage \(Pt 2\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6:1-9 Sexual Adjustment in Marriage \(Pt 3\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6:10-7:10 Creative Intimacy](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7:11-8:4 Rekindling the Flames of Marital Passion](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:5-7a Love - The Foundation for Great Intimacy \(Pt 1\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:7b-14 Love-The Foundation for Great Intimacy \(Pt 2\)](#)

The following two messages are from the 9 part series on Biblical Marriage [Click](#)...

- [Song of Solomon 2:8-3:5 Preparing for Marriage \(Part 1\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:8-3:5 Preparing for Marriage \(Part 2\)](#)

MISCELLANEOUS RESOURCES

Commentaries, Sermons, Devotionals

ROBERT ALDEN

- [Song of Solomon 8:12a. Who Said It?](#)

BAKER'S EVANGELICAL DICTIONARY OF BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

[Song of Solomon. Theology of](#) - "The allegorical method... lacks any external justification. The Song gives no indication that it should be read in any but a straightforward way. The discovery and publication of formally similar love poetry from modern Arabic literature as well as ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia signaled the end of the allegorical approach to the text, but left the church with a number of questions about the theological meaning of the Song. The Song serves an important canonical function with its explicit language of love. Allegorization in early times arose from the belief that such a subject was unsuitable for the Holy Scriptures."

Other Dictionary articles related to Song of Solomon...

- American Tract Society [Solomon's Song](#)
- Easton's Bible Dictionary [Solomon, Song of](#)
- Fausset Bible Dictionary [Song of Solomon, the Book of; Song of Solomon, the; Canticles; the Song of Solomon](#)
- Holman Bible Dictionary [Song of Solomon](#)
- Morrish Bible Dictionary [Song of Solomon](#)
- People's Bible Dictionary [Solomon the Song of](#)
- Smith Bible Dictionary [Solomon's Song](#)
- International Standard Bible Encyclopedia [Solomon, Song of](#)
- Kitto Biblical Cyclopedia [Solomon's Song](#)
- McClintock and Strong's Bible Encyclopedia [Canticles, or Solomons Song; Solomons Song.; Song of Solomon, or Song of Songs.](#)

WILLIAM BARRICK

- [Book Review - Song of Songs. Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms](#)

KENNETH BOA

- [Song of Solomon overview](#)

BIBLE CHARTS

- [Song of Solomon - Interesting Facts - Chart with brief \(but indeed interesting\) facts some you know but some you make not](#)

KENNETH BOA

- [Song of Solomon - Audio](#)

IAIN D. CAMPBELL

- [The Song Of David's Son: Interpreting The Song Of Solomon In The Light Of The Davidic Covenant](#) (also listen to a [podcast](#))

ALAN CARR

- [Song of Solomon 2:1-2 A Lily Among the Thorns](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:2-16 A Heart for Him](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:8-16 He's All that and So Much More](#)

G. LLOYD CARR

- [The Old Testament Love Songs And Their Use In The New Testament](#)
- [Is the Song of Solomon a "Sacred Marriage" Drama?](#)
- BORROW [The Song of Solomon \(Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries, 1984\)](#)

DAVID COLBURN

- [Song of Songs 1 – 8 \(Solomon Reflects Upon Love and Wisdom\)](#)

COMPANION BIBLE

- [Companion Bible Commentary - brief notes no select verses](#)

DONALD E. CURTIS

- [The Song of Songs - interesting review of the various approaches to interpretation of this OT poetic book](#)

SAMUEL IVES CURTIS

- [Does A Literal Interpretation Of The Song Of Songs Remove Its Character As Scripture?](#)

RICHARD DAVIDSON

- [Theology of Sexuality in the Song of Songs: Return to Eden," Andrews University Seminary Studies 27.1 \(Spring 1989\) 1-19](#)(or in [PDF](#))

MARK DEVER

- [Longing - Song of Solomon](#)

MARK ELLIOT

- [Ethics and Aesthetics in the Song of Songs](#)

WESTON FIELDS

- [Early and Medieval Jewish Interpretation of the Song of Songs -Grace Theological Journal 1.2 \(Fall, 1981\) 221-31](#) (or in [PDF](#))

SINCLAIR FERGUSON

- [The Course of True Love - Song of Solomon - Mp3](#)

THOMAS FOUNTAIN

- [A Parabolic View of the Song of Solomon](#)

TONY GARLAND

- Discussion of the rise of allegorical interpretation- Included here because this has been a common approach to the interpretation of the Song.

GOSPEL COALITION

- [Scripture Index - Song Of Solomon - The Gospel Coalition](#) - only one Mp3!

JAMES GRAY

- [Song of Solomon: Synthetic Bible Studies](#)

JAMES M. HAMILTON JR

- [The Messianic Music of the Song of Songs: A Non-Allegorical Interpretation](#)

JAMES HASTINGS

- [Song of Songs 1:7 Separated Lovers](#)
- [Song of Songs 2:11-13 Spring-Time](#)
- [Song of Songs 8:6-7 In Praise of Love](#)

PAUL HAUPT

- [Difficult Passages in the Song of Songs](#)

ANDREW HWANG

- [The New Structure Of The Song Of Songs And Its Implications For Interpretation](#)

HAROLD HOLMYARD III

- [Solomon's Perfect One](#)

DAVID HOLWICK

- Song of Solomon 8:6-7 Building Better Love
- [Click here, select Old Testament, then Song](#)

EDWIN HOSTETTER

- [Mistranslation in Canticles 1:5 \(Song of Solomon 1:5\)](#)

ISBE

- [Song of Songs - Dictionary Article](#)

GORDON H. JOHNSTON

- [The Enigmatic Genre and Structure of the Song of Songs, Part 1](#)
- [The Enigmatic Genre and Structure of the Song of Songs, Part 2](#)
- [The Enigmatic Genre and Structure of the Song of Songs, Part 3](#)

ARTHUR H. LEWIS

- [Equality Of Sexes In Marriage: Exposition Of The Song Of Songs](#)

J. HAMPTON KEATHLEY, III

- [The Poetical Books](#)

HENRY LAW

- [The Song of Solomon - Devotional Commentary \(be aware it is not literal\) CAVEAT - In a secondary sense, the account may also be considered as a type of the love of Christ and His church, the "Bride of Christ" \[cp Ep 5:22-33; Rev 21:2; 22:17\]. This analogy should not be pressed too far, of course, as the book should primarily be studied in accord with its own clear intent, that of describing and honoring the God-ordained union of man and woman in true love and marriage. - Morris](#)

DAVID MALICK

- [An Introduction to the Song of Songs](#)
- [An Argument of the Song of Songs](#)
- [Selected Bibliography of the Song of Songs](#)

JOHN MACARTHUR

- [Song Of Solomon - Introduction from MacArthur Study Bible](#)

MacArthur comments on the Interpretive Challenges: The Song has suffered strained interpretations over the centuries by those who use the "**allegorical**" method of interpretation, claiming that this song has no actual historical basis, but rather that it depicts God's love for Israel and/or Christ's love for the church. The misleading idea from hymnology that Christ is the *rose of Sharon* and the *lily of the valleys* results from this method (Song 2:1). The "**typological**" variation admits the historical reality, but concludes that it ultimately pictures Christ's bridegroom love for His bride the church. A more satisfying way to approach Solomon's Song is to take it at face value and **interpret it in the normal historical sense, understanding the frequent use of poetic imagery to depict reality.** To do so understands that Solomon recounts (1) his own days of

courtship, (2) the early days of his first marriage, followed by (3) the maturing of this royal couple through the good and bad days of life. The Song of Solomon expands on the ancient marriage instructions of Genesis 2:24, thus providing spiritual music for a lifetime of marital harmony. It is given by God to demonstrate His intention for the romance and loveliness of marriage, the most precious of human relations and “the grace of life” (1Pet 3:7).

Outline

I. The Courtship: “Leaving” (Song 1:2–3:5)

- A. The Lovers’ Remembrances (Song 1:2–2:7)
- B. The Lovers’ Expression of Reciprocal Love (Song 2:8–3:5)

II. The Wedding: “Cleaving” (Song 3:6–5:1)

- A. The Kingly Bridegroom (Song 3:6–11)
- B. The Wedding and First Night Together (Song 4:1–5:1a)
- C. God’s Approval (Song 5:1b)

III. The Marriage: “Weaving” (Song 5:2–8:14)

- A. The First Major Disagreement (Song 5:2–6:3)
- B. The Restoration (Song 6:4–8:4)
- C. Growing in Grace (Song 8:5–14)

MONERGISM - Most are MP3s by Chapter - Song of Solomon

- [Song Of Solomon \(Video Series\)](#) Web Page by Philip Ryken
- [Song of Solomon \(Sermon Series\)](#) Web Page by Michael Lawrence
- [Song of Solomon](#) Audio/MP3 by Bruce Waltke
- [How to Love](#) Audio/MP3 by O Palmer Robertson
- [The Course of True Love - Song of Solomon](#) Audio/MP3 by Dr Sinclair B Ferguson
- [Courtship and More - Song of Solomon 2:8-17](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [The Woman’s Agonizing Search - Song of Solomon 3:1-5](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [The Marriage has Come - Song of Solomon 3:6-11](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [The Marriage Consummated - Song of Solomon 4:1-5:1](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [Jeremiah 31 & Song of Solomon 4](#) Audio/MP3 by Paul Washer
- [The Marriage Consummated - Song of Solomon 4:1-5:1](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [Another Troubled Night - Song of Solomon 5:2-8](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [The Trouble Resolved - Song of Solomon 5:9-6:9](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [The Trouble Resolved - Song of Solomon 5:9-6:9](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [It Gets Better \(Part 1\) - Song of Solomon 6:10-7:5](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [It Gets Better \(Part 2\) - Song of Solomon 7:6-8:4](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [The Greatness of Love - Song of Solomon 8:5-7](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally
- [Summing it Up - Song of Solomon 8:8-14](#) Audio/MP3 by Vern Picknally

JOSEPH R NALLY

- [Overview Song of Solomon - excellent summary \(recommended\)](#) Here is an excerpt...

Christ in Song of Solomon: There has been a long tradition of relating this book to Christ by drawing analogies between the experiences of the two lovers and the experience of Christ and his Church. In fact, the image of God as the husband and of his covenant people as his wife is also found in the Old Testament (e.g., Jer. 2:2; Hos. 2:14-20). Because Christ claims the Church as his bride (cf. Eph. 5:22-33), **one legitimate application** of Song of Songs is to realize that the love described in the book is in many ways similar to the love that Jesus has for the Church (e.g. this is the predominant use of the Song of Songs in the Westminster Standards). At least three central dimensions instruct modern readers about the nature of this love: self giving, desire, and commitment. Jesus delights in us and gives himself to us in love. He desires us wholly for himself, and he feels deeply both the pain and pleasure of his relationship with us. Christ gave his very life for the Church and even

now devotes himself to her good as a loving husband. The Church looks to Christ for protection and affection; she honors him for his wondrous care and seeks his glory every day. Both Christ and the Church long for the day of their final union, the day of the great wedding feast at Christ's return (Rev. 19:7, 9).

JOHN PHILLIPS

- [Song of Solomon - A Profile: A Book of Love](#)

BILL MCRAE

- [Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon](#)

J VERNON MCGEE

- [Ecclesiastes & Song of Solomon](#)

MARK MCGINNISS

- ["What is He Doing in that Book?" Solomon's Role in the Song of Songs](#)

WILLIAM MOOREHEAD

- [Outline Study - Song of Solomon](#)

G CAMPBELL MORGAN

- [Living Message - Song of Solomon](#)

NIV STUDY BIBLE - Borrow [NIV Study Bible](#)

Interpretation - To find the key for unlocking the Song, interpreters have looked to prophetic, wisdom and apocalyptic passages of Scripture, as well as to ancient Egyptian and Babylonian love songs, traditional Semitic wedding songs and songs related to ancient Mesopotamian fertility religions. The closest parallels appear to be those found in Proverbs (see Pr 5:15–20; 6:24–29; 7:6–23). The description of love in 8:6–7 (cf. the descriptions of wisdom found in Pr 1–9 and Job 28) seems to confirm that the Song belongs to Biblical wisdom literature and that it is wisdom's description of an amorous relationship. The Bible speaks of both wisdom and love as gifts of God, to be received with gratitude and celebration. This understanding of the Song contrasts with the long-held view that the Song is an allegory of the love relationship between God and Israel, or between Christ and the church, or between Christ and the soul (the NT nowhere quotes from or even alludes to the Song). It is also distinct from more modern interpretations of the Song, such as that which sees it as a poetic drama celebrating the triumph of a maiden's pure, spontaneous love for her rustic shepherd lover over the courtly blandishments of Solomon, who sought to win her for his royal harem. Rather, it views the Song as a linked chain of lyrics depicting love in all its spontaneity, beauty, power and exclusiveness—experienced in its varied moments of separation and intimacy, anguish and ecstasy, tension and contentment. The Song shares with the love poetry of many cultures its extensive use of highly sensuous and suggestive imagery drawn from nature.

WILLIAM ORR

- [Key to Song of Solomon](#)

GREG W. PARSONS

- [Guidelines for Understanding and Utilizing the Song of Songs](#)

MYER PEARLMAN

- [Through the Bible Book by Book - Song of Solomon](#)

ROBERT RAYBURN

Dr. Rayburn gives 3 messages with both audio and written transcripts...

- [The Song of Songs No. 1](#)
- [The Song of Songs No. 2](#)
- [Song of Songs No. 3](#)

HARRY REEDER

- [The Song of Solomon by Harry Reeder - Reformed Theology Article](#)

RELEVANT BIBLE TEACHING

- [Song of Solomon - Brief notes from a literal perspective](#)

AREND REMMERS

- [The Song Of Songs - thoughtful comments on a difficult book to interpret](#)

GRANT RICHISON

- [Theology of Sex -Recommended online book](#)

RICK SAFRIET

- [Song of Solomon 6:4-12 Lesson Title: The Most Beautiful Bride](#)

RAY STEDMAN

- [Song of Solomon - Music to Live By](#)
- [Song of Solomon - A Love Song and a Hymn](#)

STUDY GUIDE

- [Song of Solomon - The Book of Romance and Intimacy - looks good. Might make a good pre-marital counseling study.](#)

CHARLES SWINDOLL

- [Book of Song of Solomon Overview - Insight for Living Ministries](#)- see excerpt below...

Why is Song of Solomon so important? This book remains singular within the Old Testament for at least two reasons: its character as a single poem and its subject matter, particularly the frank discussion of love between a married couple. The Song of Solomon's willingness to broach the topic of physical love within marriage has made many of its readers throughout history uncomfortable, so much so that Rabbi Aqiba had to vigorously defend the book's place in the Jewish canon even as late as AD 90 at the Council of Jamnia.² But as a testament to the beauty of the marriage relationship in its fullness, Song of Solomon stands out with its uniquely detailed vision of this beautiful reality.

What's the big idea? The fullness of the union that takes place at marriage is described in some of the most splendid poetic language in the entire Bible. In a world where so many speak of God's special gifts with coldly clinical or apathetic statistical language, the passion of Solomon's poetry refreshes a world thirsty for the truth about marriage. Solomon began his rendering of this relationship with the two lovers in courtship longing for affection while expressing their love for one another (Song of Solomon 1:1–3:5). Eventually, they come together in marriage, the groom extolling his bride's beauty before they consummate their relationship (Song 3:6–5:1). Finally, she struggles with the fear of separation, while he reassures his bride of his affections for her (Song 5:2–8:14). All of this reinforces the theme of the goodness of marriage. Some suggest the book also pictures in a more general way Christ's love for His bride, the church.

How do I apply this? From courtship to marriage to the assurance of love, Song of Solomon poetically presents a broad range of events and feelings in the days leading up to and during marriage, offering encouragement toward an enduring love amid the petty jealousies and fears sure to threaten even the strongest of relationships. We should heed the Song's sublime words by continuing to value marriage as one of the bedrocks of society, appreciating the goodness and the beauty borne out of the union of two people in holy matrimony. Would you consider your marriage a sign of God's goodness and beauty working in your life, or has it become something less than that over time? Song of Solomon reminds us that both marriage and the physical union that follows originate in God; we should therefore consider each of them as evidence of His grace working itself out in the world.

J. PAUL TANNER

- [The Message of the Song of Songs](#)
- [The History of Interpretation of the Song of Songs \(25 pages\)](#)

JAMES VAN DINE

- [Analysis of Song of Solomon](#)

PAUL VAN GORDER

- [OT Reflections of Christ - Song of Solomon](#)

Introduction - The Song of Solomon is the closing book of the poetical section of the Old Testament. It is probably censured more and read less than any other book. Critics have said it is indecent, and it may appear to be so to the unspiritual mind. Remember, however, that the Eastern people were a passionate people, both in love and hate.

The highest affection known to man is a husband's love for his wife. Jesus spoke of this devotion when He said, "For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they two shall be one flesh" (Matthew 19:5).

Some people say that the Song of Solomon is just a love song and therefore has no place in the Bible. A superficial reading of the book might lead to this conclusion. But when you consider the tremendous truth found in Ephesians 5-- that the union of a husband and wife is an earthly illustration of the heavenly relationship between Christ and His church-- then the Song of Solomon takes on a new meaning. The child of God sees the love of Christ for His church portrayed through the love of a man for his wife. One of the greatest needs of the church today is a deep, personal love for Christ... The key word of the Song of Solomon is "**beloved**." The key verse is: "I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine" (Song 6:3). Let us consider the teaching of the book by looking at several important facets of the love-relationship between the bride and the bride-groom.

BRUCE WALTKE

- [Song of Solomon - Mp3](#)

SHERWOOD E WIRT

- [Some New Thoughts About the Song of Solomon](#)

EDWIN YAMAUCHI

- [Cultic Clues in Canticles \(Song of Songs\)](#)

HENRY MORRIS
Defender's Study Bible

[Introduction to Song of Solomon](#) Like the book of Ecclesiastes, the Song of Solomon (also known as “Song of Songs” and “Canticles”) is both fascinating and enigmatic, both providing striking testimonials (as in the book of Proverbs) to the unique, wide-ranging, wisdom of Solomon. Like the other two books, it claims to be from Solomon (Song of Solomon 1:1). Solomon was said to have written over a thousand songs (I Kings 4:32), but this was his “Song of songs!”

The book was evidently written early in Solomon’s reign, long before his many wives turned his life away from devotion to his first love. Although there have been a number of interpretations of this book, the most obvious interpretation is no interpretation at all. That is, it is simply what it purports to be—a romantic love poem describing the love of young Solomon and a Shulamite maiden who became his first bride.

There is nothing unseemly, of course, about a book of the Bible depicting the beauties of pure courtship and marital love. The union of male and female in holy matrimony is intrinsic to the creation itself (Genesis 2:24-25). In this sense, the narrative of the Song can be considered as an idyllic picture of courtship and marriage that might apply, with varying details, to all true love and marriage as ordained by God.

In a secondary sense, the account may also be considered as a type of the love of Christ and His church, the “Bride of Christ” (compare Ephesians 5:22-33; Revelation 21:2; 22:17). **This analogy should not be pressed too far, of course, as the book should primarily be studied in accord with its own clear intent, that of describing and honoring the God-ordained union of man and woman in true love and marriage.**

- Song of Solomon 1:1 [song of songs](#)
- Song of Solomon 1:5 [black daughters of Jerusalem](#)
- Song of Solomon 1:6 [the sun hath looked upon me.](#)
- Song of Solomon 1:7 [makest thy flock](#)
- Song of Solomon 1:9 [compared](#)
- Song of Solomon 1:14 [My beloved](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:1 [rose of Sharon](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:4 [banner](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:5 [flagons](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:7 [charge](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:8 [behold, he cometh](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:10 [Rise up](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:11 [winter is past](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:12 [turtle](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:13 [fig tree](#)
- Song of Solomon 2:15 [Take us the foxes](#)
- Song of Solomon 3:1 [on my bed](#)
- Song of Solomon 3:6 [myrrh and frankincense](#)
- Song of Solomon 3:11 [his mother](#)
- Song of Solomon 4:1 [fair](#)
- Song of Solomon 4:6 [Until the day break](#)
- Song of Solomon 4:10 [my sister](#)
- Song of Solomon 4:12 [garden enclosed](#)
- Song of Solomon 4:15 [living waters](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:2 [my heart waketh](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:8 [sick of love](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:9 [more than another beloved](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:10 [My beloved ruddy chiefest](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:11 [black as a raven](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:12 [eyes of doves](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:13 [His cheeks myrrh](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:14 [His hands his belly](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:15 [His legs fine gold](#)
- Song of Solomon 5:16 [most sweet altogether lovely](#)
- Song of Solomon 6:1 [seek him with thee](#)
- Song of Solomon 6:3 [my beloved is mine](#)
- Song of Solomon 6:8 [threescore queens](#)

- Song of Solomon 6:13 [Shulamite company of two armies](#)
- Song of Solomon 7:1 [thy thighs](#)
- Song of Solomon 7:11 [Come, my beloved](#)
- Song of Solomon 7:13 [mandrakes](#)
- Song of Solomon 8:6 [as a seal](#)
- Song of Solomon 8:7 [cannot quench love](#)
- Song of Solomon 8:8 [a little sister](#)
- Song of Solomon 8:11 [keepers](#)
- Song of Solomon 8:12 [My vineyard](#)
- Song of Solomon 8:14 [Make haste](#)

STUDY BIBLES

Notes on Song of Solomon

(1) [KJV Bible Commentary](#) - Hindson, Edward E; Kroll, Woodrow Michael. Over 3000 pages of the entire OT/NT. Well done conservative commentary that interprets Scripture from a literal perspective. Pre-millennial. **No restrictions**

Very well done conservative commentary that interprets Scripture from a literal perspective. The King James Version Bible Commentary is a complete verse-by-verse commentary. It is comprehensive in scope, reliable in scholarship, and easy to use. Its authors are leading evangelical theologians who provide practical truths and biblical principles. Any Bible student will gain new insights through this one-volume commentary based on the timeless King James Version of the Bible.

(2) [NKJV Study Bible: New King James Version Study Bible](#) (formerly "The Nelson Study Bible - NKJV") by Earl D Radmacher; Ronald Barclay Allen; Wayne H House. 2345 pages. (1997, 2007). Very helpful notes. Conservative. Pre-millennial. **No restrictions**

(3) [The King James Study Bible Second Edition](#) 2240 pages (2013) (Thomas Nelson) General Editor - Edward Hindson with multiple contributing editors. Pre-millennial. See [introduction on How to Use this Study Bible](#) **BORROW**.

LANGE'S COMMENTARY

Song of Solomon

Comments on Verses at top of page are generally Literal

Comments in Doctrinal, Ethical section are generally allegorical

- [Song 1 Commentary](#)
- [Song 2 Commentary](#)
- None on Song 3
- [Song 4 Commentary](#)
- [Song 5 Commentary](#)
- [Song 6 Commentary](#)
- [Song 7 Commentary](#)
- [Song 8 Commentary](#)

LIGONIER DEVOTIONALS

SONG OF SOLOMON

- [Song of Solomon 1–2 The Song of Solomon](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:8–17 Marriage, Love, and Sex](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3–4 A Time for Love](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:5 The Right Time for Love](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:13–14 The Only Love That Can Fully Satisfy](#)

- [Song of Solomon 8:6–7 A Seal on the Heart and Arm](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4:1–7 Building Relationship](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5–6 The Beauty of Love](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7–8 A Still Greater Love](#)

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS

Manners and Customs of Bible Lands

Song 1:5 - Tent Material Picture: Tent Material The Bedouin's home is his tent, which is made of black goat's hair. He calls it *beit sha'ar*, i.e., "house of hair." It is made of coarse, heavy fabric, and serves to protect the family in winter from the cold winds; in the summer the sides are usually lifted, and the tent serves as a sunshade. This goat's hair cloth that is used in making these tents is porous when it is dry, but becomes waterproof after the first rains have shrunk it together. The Song of Solomon refers to these black goat's hair tents thus: "I am black, but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, as the tents of Kedar" (Cant 1:5).

Song 1:7 - How Goats Differ From Sheep. Most of the Palestinian and Syrian sheep are white, whereas most of the goats are black. The goats like the slopes of the rocky mountains, whereas the sheep prefer the plains or mountain valleys. The goats are especially fond of young leaves of trees, but the sheep would rather have grass. Goats will feed during all the day without the heat of summer affecting them; but when the sunshine is hot, the sheep will lie down under a tree, or in the shade of a rock, or in a rude shelter prepared by the shepherd for that purpose. Song of Solomon makes mention of this rest time for the sheep: "Tell me, O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon" (Cant. 1:7). The goats are bolder, more venturesome, more playful, more apt to clamber to dangerous places, more apt to break into the grainfields, more headstrong, more vigorous, and more difficult to control than are the sheep.

Song 2:11 - The Fig Tree A Sign Of The Season - [The fig tree \(Fausset's Bible Dictionary\)](#) shows sign of foliage later than some of the other fruit trees of Palestine. The unfolding of the fig leaves and the deepening of their color is thought of as a sign that summertime is at hand. Jesus made reference to this idea: "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; when his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh" (Matt. 24:32; Mark 13:28). The lover in the Song of Solomon indicated that winter was past and summer was at hand because "the fig tree putteth forth her green figs" (Cant. 2:11-13).

Song 4:13 - Pomegranates ([Fausset's Bible Dictionary](#)). There are several varieties of sweet and sour pomegranates in the land. The juice of the sour variety is used in the absence of lemons for the purposes of that fruit. The pomegranate was greatly esteemed as a fruit in early Bible times, for it was mentioned by Moses as one of the excellencies of the Promised Land (Deut. 8:8). The Song of Solomon makes mention of the pomegranate fruit, trees, and spiced wine from its juice (Cant. 4:13; Cant. 6:11; Cant. 7:12; Cant. 8:2).

Song 5:4 - The Use Of Keys. ([Fausset's Bible Dictionary - Key in Song 5:4-5](#)). The Oriental key of modern times is like the key of Isaiah's days, and most certainly not like the small occidental variety. Isaiah 22:22 says: "The key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder." Dr. Thomson tells of seeing different keys in Palestine that would be large enough to lay on the shoulder of a man. He saw one key about a foot and a half in length. The keys were usually made of wood. The lock is placed on the inside of the gate or door, and to make it possible for the owner of the house to unlock it, a hole is cut in the door, and he thrusts his arm through this hole, and then inserts the key. In Song of Solomon 5:4, the bride says: "My beloved put in his hand by the hole of the door." She saw him thrust his hand through the hole, that he might unlock the door and then go in.

Song 7:2 Binding The Grain Into Sheaves. The cut grain is gathered on the arms and bound into sheaves. The Psalmist makes reference to the mower filling his hand, and the binder of sheaves filling his bosom (Ps. 129:7). And Song of Solomon speaks of an heap of wheat (Cant. 7:2), and Joseph in his dream saw "binding sheaves in the field" (Ge 37:7). Thus the cut grain was gathered in the arms and bound into sheaves.

Other books on culture that can be borrowed

MANNERS AND CUSTOMS IN THE BIBLE

1. [Today's Handbook of Bible Times & Customs](#) by Coleman, William L
2. [Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Manners & Customs : How the People of the Bible Really Lived](#) by Vos, Howard Frederic
3. [Manners & Customs of the Bible](#) (The New Manners and Customs) Freeman, James M., 1827-1900 Published 1998

4. [The New Manners and Customs of Bible Times](#): Gower, Ralph, 1933- Published 1987
5. [Manners and Customs of Bible lands](#) By: Wight, Fred Published 1983
6. [Manners and Customs in the Bible](#) By: [Matthews, Victor Harold](#) Published 1991
7. [Handbook of life in Bible times](#) By: Thompson, J. A. (John Arthur), 1913-2002 Published 1986
8. [Illustrated dictionary of Bible manners and customs](#) By: Deursen, A. van (Arie), 1891-1963 Published 1982
9. [The Illustrated Guide to Bible Customs & Curiosities](#) by Knight, George W.
10. [Orientalisms in Bible lands, giving light from customs, habits, manners, imagery, thought and life in the East for Bible students](#) By: Rice, Edwin Wilbur, 1831-1929 Published 1910
11. [Bible manners and customs](#) By: Mackie, G. M. 1854-1922 Published 1898
12. [Teach it to your children : how kids lived in Bible days](#) By: Vamosh, Miriam Feinberg, author
13. [Everyday life in Bible times : work, worship, and war](#) By: Embry, Margaret Published 1994
14. [Everyday living : Bible life and times : fascinating, everyday customs and traditions from the people of the Bible](#) Published 2006
15. [The Land and the Book; or, Biblical illustrations drawn from the manners and customs, the scenes and scenery, of the Holy land](#) By: Thomson, William M. (William McClure), 1806-1894 Published 1880
16. [Eastern manners illustrative of the Old Testament history](#) By: Jamieson, Robert, 1802-1880 Published 1838
17. [Scripture manners and customs : being an account of the domestic habits, arts, etc., of Eastern nations mentioned in Holy Scripture](#) Published 1895

TOMMY NELSON
Love Song:
A Study in the Song of Solomon
Mp3's

I have not personally listened to his series on Solomon but my son an elder at a local Bible church has listened and found it to be excellent preparation for his marriage.

[Click here for this classic series of sermons](#) listed below

- [The Art of Attraction](#) Song of Solomon 1:1-2:7
- [The Art of Dating](#) Song of Solomon 2:8-3:5
- [The Art of Intimacy](#) Song of Solomon 3:6-5:1
- [The Art of Conflict](#) Song of Solomon 5:2-6:13
- [The Art of Deepening](#) Song of Solomon 7:1-8:4
- [The Art of Faithfulness](#) Song of Solomon 1:1

NET BIBLE NOTES
Includes notes, pictures, hymns

Recommended: NET Bible notes while somewhat technical can be helpful and in the Song are more lengthy than NET Notes on many other books.

- [Song 1 Commentary](#)
- [Song 2 Commentary](#)
- [Song 3 Commentary](#)
- [Song 4 Commentary](#)
- [Song 5 Commentary](#)
- [Song 6 Commentary](#)
- [Song 7 Commentary](#)
- [Song 8 Commentary](#)

Devotionals

[See these devotionals below](#)

- Song of Solomon 1:1 No Wonder!
- Song of Solomon 2:10 Say It!
- Song of Solomon 2:14 Eyes Only For Her
- Song of Solomon 2:15 Tiny Evils, Big Fall
- Song of Solomon 2:15 Catching Foxes

DOUGLAS O'DONNELL Commentary on Song of Solomon

- [Invitation to Song of Solomon](#)
- [Purpose](#)
- [Key Verse](#)
- [Outline](#)
- [Rejoicing in Love \(1:1–4\)](#)
- [Behold, You Are Beautiful \(1:5–2:7\)](#)
- [In Blossom \(2:8–17\)](#)
- [The Day of Gladness \(3:1–11\)](#)
- [Into the Garden \(4:1–5:1\)](#)
- [Sick with Love \(5:2–6:3\)](#)
- [Captivating Beauty \(6:4–8:4\)](#)
- [Longing for More \(8:5–14\)](#)
- [Bibliography](#)
- [Endnotes & Permissions](#)
- [SEE MORE SONG OF SOLOMON RESOURCES](#)

REFORMATION STUDY BIBLE Study Notes Song of Solomon

- [Song 1:1](#)
- [Song 1:2–4](#)
- [Song 1:4](#)
- [Song 1:5–6](#)
- [Song 1:7](#)
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- [Song 8:12](#)

- [Song 8:13](#)
- [Song 8:14](#)

ROB SALVATO

Sermons

- [Song of Solomon 1:1-4 \(Sex, God and Love, Part 1\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:5-2:7 \(Sex, God and Love, Part 2\) \(Intimate Apparel\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:8-17 \(Sex, God and Love, Part 3\) \(Risk\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:1-5 \(Sex, God and Love, Part 4\) \(Restraint\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:6-5:1 \(Sex, God and Love, Part 5\) \(Divine Romance\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:2-6:3 \(Sex, God and Love, Part 6\) \(Happily Ever After\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6:2-13 \(Sex, God and Love, Part 7\) \(The Language of Forgiveness\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7:1-8:14 \(Sex, God and Love, Part 8\) \(Avoiding Cruise Control\)](#)

C H SPURGEON

All his Sermons on Song of Solomon

Note: Spurgeon is included in the list but **his approach is often allegorical**

- [Song of Solomon 1:2 Better than Wine](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:4 A Refreshing Canticle](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:4 The Memory of Christ's Love](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:4 Rejoicing and Remembering](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:6 Self-Humbling and Self-Searching](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:6 The Unkept Vineyard; Or, Personal Work Neglected](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:7 Love to Jesus](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:7 The Church's Love to Her Loving Lord](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:7, 8 The Good Shepherdess](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:12 Fragrant Graces](#)
- [Song of Solomon 1:13 A Bundle of Myrrh](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:1 The Best of the Best](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:1 The Rose and the Lily](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:2 The Lily among Thorns](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:3 The Apple Tree in the Wood](#)
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- [Song of Solomon 2:7 Roes and the Hinds](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:10-13 Sermon for Spring](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:13 The Tender Grapes](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:16 Interest of Christ and His People in Each Other](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:16 A Song Among the Lilies](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:16 My Beloved Is Mine](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:16 Loved and Loving](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:16-17 Over the Mountains](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:16-17 A Song of My Beloved](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:17 Darkness Before the Dawn](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:17 Believer's Glad Prospects](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:1-4 Disconsolate Lover](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:4 Love's Vigilance Rewarded](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:4-5 The Real Presence, the Great Want of the Church](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:6 The Royal Pair in Their Glorious Chariot](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:10 Saved with Love](#)

- [Song of Solomon 4:10-11 Christ's Estimate of His People](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4:12 Lord's Own View of His Church and People](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4:12, 15 Secret and Yet No Secret](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4:16 Grace for Communion](#)
- [Song of Solomon 4:16 My Garden--His Garden](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:1 The King Feasting in His Garden](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:1 Love Joying in Love](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:2 Asleep and Yet Awake—a Riddle](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:2 Warning and Encouragement](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:2-8 Nearer and Dearer](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:6 The Soul's Desertion](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:8 Heavenly Love-Sickness!](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:9 The Incomparable Bridegroom and His Bride](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:10 Christ's Perfection and Precedence](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:13 Spices, Flowers, Lilies and Myrrh](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:16 The Best Beloved](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:16 Altogether Lovely](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6:4 The Church as She Should Be](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6:5 Overcoming Christ](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6:12 Chariots of Amminadib](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6:13 Inward Conflicts](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6:13 Return, Return, O Shulamite; Return, Return!](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7:11-13 A Call for Revival](#)
- [Song of Solomon 7:11-13 Good Works in Good Company](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:5 Leaning on Our Beloved](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:6 Love and Jealousy](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:6, 7 Shulamite's Choice Prayer](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:7 Unpurchasable Love](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:12 Christ's Love for His Vineyard](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:13 The Bridegroom's Parting Word](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:14 Come, My Beloved!](#)

RAY STEDMAN

Song of Solomon

- [Song of Solomon - Music to Live By](#)
- [Song of Solomon - A Love Song and a Hymn](#)

DEREK THOMAS

Song of Solomon

Sermon Series

- [Song of Solomon 1:1-2:3 Love's Beginning](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:3-3:5 Growing Love](#)
- [Song of Solomon 2:3 A Time to Embrace - Finding A Life Partner](#)
- [Song of Solomon 3:6-5:1 Wedding Bells](#)
- [Song of Solomon 5:2-6:3 Love in Winter](#)
- [Song of Solomon 6:4-8:4 Communicating Affection](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:5-7 Love's Commitment\(s\)](#)
- [Song of Solomon 8:8-14 And Finally... Lessons](#)

BOB UTLEY

Song of Solomon Commentary

- [Song of Songs 1 Commentary](#)
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G I WILLIAMSON The Song of Songs:

Primarily Literal Interpretation

[Series on the Song of Solomon](#) - seems to focus on the literal aspects and intimacy in marriage. All of the titles below are on the same page - you will need to scroll down

- Song of Solomon 1:1 Getting the Right Perspective
- Song of Solomon 1:2-2:7 The Beginning of True Love
- Song of Solomon 2:8-3:5 Getting to Know You
- Song of Solomon 3:8-5:2 Lover's Lib
- Song of Solomon 5:2-6:9 The Test of True Love - Part 1
- Song of Solomon 6:10-8:4 The Test of True Love - Part 1
- Song of Solomon 8:5-7 The Love that Excels
- Song of Solomon 8:8-14 Summing it All Up

THIRD MILLENNIUM Study Notes Song of Solomon

OUTLINE & REFERENCES

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- [Overview Song of Solomon](#)

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- [Mutual Praise and Longing - Song of Solomon 1:2-2:17](#)
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- [The Young Man - Song of Solomon 5:1](#)
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- [The Friends - Song of Solomon 6:13a](#)
- [The Young Man - Song of Solomon 6:13b](#)

Song of Solomon 7

- [More Mutual Praise and Longing - Song of Solomon 7:1-8:4](#)
- [The Young Man - Song of Solomon 7:1-9a](#)
- [The Young Woman - Song of Solomon 7:9-8:4](#)

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- [Reminiscences to the Wedding - Song of Solomon 8:5-14](#)
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Song of Solomon

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STEVE ZEISLER
Peninsula Bible Church

- [Song of Songs 1:1 The Superlative Song](#)
- [Song of Songs 1:2-2:7 Your Love Is Better Than Wine](#)
- [Song of Songs 2:8-3:6 In Love, In The Springtime](#)
- [Song of Songs 3:7-5:1 You Have Made My Heart Beat Faster](#)
- [Song of Songs 5:2-6:3 Lost And Found](#)
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- [Song of Songs 7:10 - 8:14 Life Lessons](#)

OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONALS

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No Wonder! Song of Solomon 1:1-4

We love Him because He first loved us. —nkjv 1 John 4:19

Today's Scripture & Insight: Song of Solomon 1:1-4

"He's perfect for you," my friend told me. She was talking about a guy she had just met. She described his kind eyes, his kind smile, and his kind heart. When I met him I had to agree. Today he's my husband, and no wonder I love him!

In the Song of Solomon the bride describes her lover. His love is better than wine and more fragrant than ointments. His name is sweeter than anything in this world. So she concludes that it's no wonder he is loved.

But there is Someone far greater than any earthly loved one, Someone whose love is also better than wine. His love satisfies our every need. His "fragrance" is better than any perfume because when He gave Himself for us, His sacrifice became a sweet-smelling aroma to God (Eph. 5:2). Finally, His name is above every name (Phil. 2:9). No wonder we love Him!

It is a privilege to love Jesus. It is the best experience in life! Do we take the time to tell Him so? Do we express with words the beauty of our Savior? If we show His beauty with our lives, others will say, "No wonder you love Him!" By: Keila Ochoa

Lord, You are beautiful! No wonder we love You! Deepen our love for You today, we pray. Help us see Your beauty in new ways.

Share this prayer from our Facebook page with your friends: facebook.com/ourdailybread

God's Word tells us of His love; our words tell Him of our love.

Say It!

My beloved spoke, and said to me: "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away." — Song of Solomon 2:10

Today's Scripture: Song of Solomon 2:10-14

All too often we take for granted the ones we love. Perhaps we get caught up in the day-to-day process of living and working, and we neglect to share our true inner feelings. "She knows I love her," we tell ourselves. But we never tell our spouse.

Maybe you grew up in a family where positive, loving feelings were never expressed in words, so you don't know what to say. Perhaps you're afraid you'll say the wrong thing, or that if you try to express your feelings you won't be able to control them. That's okay, even if you cry.

An advertisement reads, "Say it with flowers!" Maybe that's how you tell that special someone of your love. Or perhaps you say it with a well-chosen card. My wife loves dark chocolates, so I often give her candy and a card on special occasions. She appreciates these tokens of love, but I've learned over the years not to let the card or the gift do all the work of saying what I really feel inside. I also need to say the words, "I love you."

Everyone needs to hear words of love. In the Song of Solomon, the lovers frequently used endearing terms when speaking to each other.

Today, tell that special person "I love you," not just with candy or flowers but with words. By: David C. Egner

THINKING IT OVER

When was the last time you said "I love you" to a special person in your life? Think of a quality you appreciate in that person and tell him or her about it.

A word of love can make a world of difference.

Eyes Only For Her

O my dove, . . . let me see your face, let me hear your voice. — Song of Solomon 2:14

Today's Scripture: Revelation 19:6-10

I was privileged to officiate at Steve's marriage to Karen. God had brought this couple together, and it was obvious that they were deeply in love.

When the wedding day finally arrived, all preparations had been made. The bridesmaids' dresses were ready, the flowers were in place, the rehearsal was complete. As the ceremony began, Steve and I walked in first. We stood at the front as the bridesmaids came down the aisle and took their places. The flower girls came next, dropping petals as they walked. They were cute as could be, and all eyes were on them—all except Steve's. Then I heard him sigh. Karen had stepped into his vision. He hadn't been concerned about the bridesmaids, or even the flower girls. He was watching for his bride. He had eyes only for her.

The church is Jesus Christ's fiancée—His betrothed. He loves her with a sacrificial, unending love. He died to redeem her. And the day is nearing when Christ will return to earth to take His bride unto Himself. The joyous marriage supper of the Lamb will follow (Rev. 19:7-9).

As part of the church, we are the bride of Christ. He loves us. He has eyes only for us.

Do we have eyes only for Him? By: David C. Egnor

From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.
—Stone

God loves every one of us as if there were but one of us to love. —Augustine

Catching Foxes

Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards. Song of Solomon 2:15

Today's Scripture & Insight: Song of Solomon 2:14–17

While talking on the phone with a friend who lives by the seaside, I expressed delight at hearing seagulls squawking. "Vile creatures," she responded, for to her they're a daily menace. As a Londoner, I feel the same way about foxes. I find them not cute animals but roaming creatures that leave smelly messes in their wake.

Foxes appear in the love poetry of the Song of Solomon, an Old Testament book that reveals the love between a husband and wife and, some commentators believe, between God and His people. The bride warns about little foxes, asking her bridegroom to catch them (2:15). For foxes, hungry for the vineyard's grapes, could tear the tender plants apart. As the bride looks forward to their married life together, she doesn't want vermin disturbing their covenant of love.

How can "foxes" disturb our relationship with God? For me, when I say "yes" to too many requests, I can become overwhelmed and unpleasant. Or when I witness relational conflict, I can be tempted to despair or anger. As I ask the Lord to limit the effect of these "foxes"—those I've let in through an open gate or those that have snuck in—I gain in trust of and love for God as I sense His loving presence and direction.

How about you? How can you seek God's help from anything keeping you from Him? By: Amy Boucher Pye

Lord God, You are powerful and You are good. Please protect my relationship with You, keeping out anything that would take my eyes off You.

God can guard our relationship with Him.

Tiny Evils, Big Fall

Dead flies putrefy the perfumer's ointment, . . . so does a little folly of one respected for wisdom and honor. —
Ecclesiastes 10:1

Today's Scripture: Ecclesiastes 9:16-10:10

It started as a seedling on the slopes of the Colorado Rockies some 500 years ago. For centuries it had stood tall, enduring violent winds, lightning strikes, blizzards, even avalanches. Now, however, the once-towering tree is just a mound of decaying wood.

What caused its demise? A horde of beetles had attacked it, gnawing away until that skyscraper of nature surrendered to those tiny pests and toppled over.

That's also the tragic story of many Christians. For long years they stood tall for God. They resisted temptations, weathered crises, and were bold in the strength divinely provided. But little sins began to eat away at their lives—little lies, little compromises with greed or lust, sins that gradually eroded their character. And suddenly they fell.

Song of Solomon 2:15 states, "Catch us the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines." This colorful Old Testament verse should sound a loud alarm in our consciences. We must not tolerate the little evils that eat away at the roots of our lives. Otherwise, our once-strong witness for Christ will become a silenced casualty of sin. Let's confess those "tiny" evils to God now, before they lead to a big fall. By: Vernon Grounds

Nothing between, like worldly pleasure,
Habits of life, though harmless they seem,
Must not my heart from Him ever sever—
He is my all! There's nothing between.
—Tindley

A big fall begins with a little stumble.