



Song of Songs

The Bible's Love Song

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Song of Songs

The Bible's Love Song



*All the books in Scripture are holy, but
Song of Songs is the holy of holies.*

– Rabbi Akiva ben Joseph (~50 – 137)

Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song

- This is the third of three books in the Bible by **Solomon**.
- Solomon wrote **over 1000 songs** according to **1 Kings 4:32**, but maybe this was the most popular.
- It is a lengthy poem of romantic love.

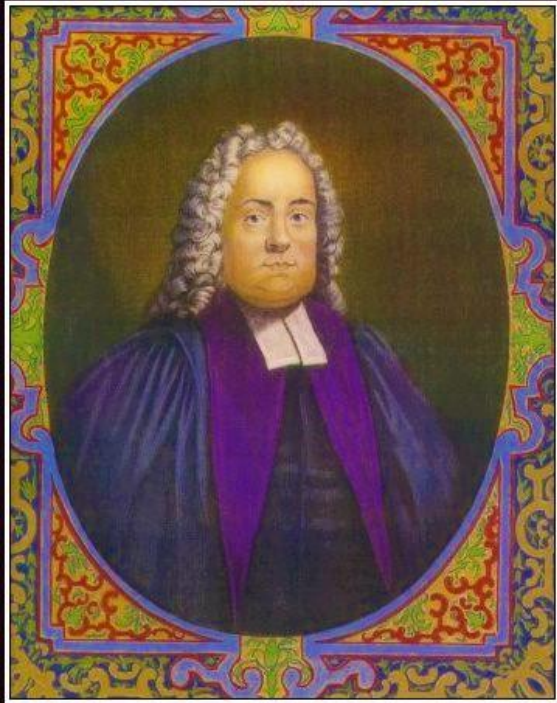
Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song

- God is not mentioned anywhere in the book.
- If we take it at face value, this is a beautiful love song, telling of a man and his bride, their love, marriage and intimacy.

Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song

- This has caused some to avoid dealing with the book at face value, looking rather for some sort of allegory.
- For example, take [Matthew Henry's commentary](#).

Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song



In this chapter, after the title of the book, we have Christ and his church, Christ and a believer, expressing their esteem for each other ... The church expresses the great value she has for Christ ... Christ commends the church's beauty. The church returns the commendation. Where there is a fire of true love to Christ in the heart this will be of use to blow it up into a flame.

– Matthew Henry (1662 – 1714)

Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song

- The **Song of songs** is certainly valuable as an illustration of Christ and the church.
- Other biblical writers also make the comparison between that relationship and the institution of marriage.
- But **Song of Songs** reads like it is about an earthly couple.

Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song

- While interpretations have varied, the **Song** has been part of the Scriptures since very ancient times.
- Let's accept that the love relationship between a husband and wife is holy and that God desires to bless it.

Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song

- If God created us male and female as part of his plan for humanity, then he is Lord over that relationship.
- There is nothing to be ashamed of in it.
- There is no need to allegorize the details.

Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song

- Once that reality is established, we may admit that the Bible uses marriage to illustrate other relationships.
- **God's relationship to Israel** is likened to the union between a man and his wife – though the wife is often unfaithful.
- Therefore, since ancient times the rabbis have applied this book to God's love for His covenant people.

Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song

- In addition, we can also see in this book **Christ's love for the church**, His bride.
- We can see Christ's heart drawing us to Himself.
- The Scriptures promise us that we will one day be united with Him for all eternity.

Song of Songs The Bible's Love Song

- Let's read the entire poem.
- Though counted as a book, it's no longer than **Psalm 119**. 😊

Song of Songs Key Verses

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- **Song of Songs 6:1** (ESV)

Where has your beloved gone,
O most beautiful among women?
Where has your beloved turned,
that we may seek him with you?

Song of Songs Key Verses

- Song of Songs 7:10 (ESV)

I am my beloved's,
and his desire is for me.

Song of Songs

Conclusions

Song of Songs Conclusions

As we conclude the study of this superlative song, we need to remind ourselves that human sexuality is God-given and beautiful when practised within the parameters God has ordained ...

*– Tewoldemedhin Habtu,
Ethiopian Bible Scholar*



Song of Songs Conclusions

... that is, within the context of a committed and loving relationship between husband and wife. The Song does not endorse sexual promiscuity, but affirms the pure joy of divinely instituted marital love.

*– Tewoldemedhin Habtu,
Ethiopian Bible Scholar*



Song of Songs Conclusions

- The Bible speaks into every area of our lives, because God desires to rule over every area of our lives.
- Thus, the area pertaining to love, marriage and sexuality is God's territory.

Song of Songs Conclusions

- Once we are content with God's plan for marriage, we can take it one step farther, as Paul does.
- In **Ephesians 5:25-33**, Paul uses the marriage relationship to point us to the connection between Christ and his bride.

Song of Songs Conclusions

- **Ephesians 5:25-33** (ESV)

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself ...

Song of Songs Conclusions

- **Ephesians 5:25-33** (ESV)

²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, ³⁰ because we are members of his body. ³¹ “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”³² This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. ³³ However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.