

SESSION 2: Encountering Jesus in the Greatest Prophetic Song

I. PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY: TO REVEAL THE PATTERN OF JN. 17:26

- A. In this SONG, the Holy Spirit records the principles necessary in the progression involved in growing into full passion for Jesus.
 - 1. This book sets forth a divine pattern of growing in holy passion. It is a perfect pattern given by a Holy Spirit love song. It cannot be improved upon. My interpretation and your interpretation can be improved upon, but this book is the perfect transcript from God's soul as to the pattern of maturity and the progression into passion.
 - 2. It sets forth divine principles of spiritual maturity.
 - 3. This book helps us to understand our spiritual progress with great clarity. I believe a devotional study of this book will result in our hearts being enlarged in love and passion for Jesus.
 - 4. My prayer is that the Holy Spirit will impart the great love for Jesus into our hearts that He and the Father have for Jesus (Jn. 17:26).

- B. This song reveals the divine pattern for the progression of holy passion. It touches all the significant themes within the whole council of God that are necessary in the process for developing passion for Jesus.
 - 1. It is an unbroken love song that continues for over 8 chapters growing progressively into mature passion.
 - 2. All the major principals essential to being trained and prepared in spiritual maturity are clearly set forth in the Song of Solomon.
 - 3. The order and sequence of the progression is magnificent.
 - 4. The more I study it, the more I am absolutely convinced of the significance of this book.

- C. The purpose of this study is to reveal the pattern of John 17:26 which is the great prayer of Jesus.
1. This 8 chapter love Song develops the practical realities of Jn. 17:26.
 2. Our goal is to discern this holy pattern more clearly and then to apply it more practically.
- D. Understanding is a fountain of life (Prov. 16:22). The pattern of the book will help us locate and identify the issues that God is specifically dealing with in our lives.
1. Song of Solomon helps us realize that He is dealing with all of us with the exact same principles. On the other hand, there are different applications because we all have different needs in our heart.
 2. God uses the same principles to train each of us. When we discover the pressures and trials of life we experience are common to all of God's people, then we don't feel quite so isolated.
 3. We will also be better equipped to discern the seasons of our lives in this pattern and the resulting knowledge aids us in our progression to spiritual maturity.
 4. People often will find themselves in 2 different places in this SONG during the same timeframe. In different seasons of our life, we will go back and forth to different places of testing or blessing described throughout this SONG.
- E. May you open up the secret places of your heart and spirit to the deep searchings of the Holy Spirit, who exposes all things that you might grow up into Him who is the Head. This will require long and loving meditation on this portion of Scripture with an open and honest heart before God. Pray that He will draw you after Himself until you are made fully willing to run with Him into full obedience (Song 1:4).

II. ENCOUNTERING JESUS: JOURNALING & PRAYER-READING

- A. Practically giving our heart to God and receiving from Him
- B. The following is a practical aid to help give our heart to God and to receive from Him. The purpose of this section is to show how to use this love song as the springboard of inspiration for our heart. The following is a way to express devotion to the Lord:
1. The backside of each page is purposefully left blank in order to provide space to journal as you “pray-read” this Song. As we read through the scriptures, we should pray the actual bible passages back to God.
 2. Write down (journal) the things that the Lord puts on your heart. Consider the following suggestions as a method of prayer reading. The idea is to turn bible passages into meaningful conversation and dialogue with Jesus.
- C. In scripture, I define 2 broad categories of truth related to meditation.
1. First, truths that exhort us “**to believe**” God’s Word.
 2. Second, truths that exhort us “**to obey**”. God’s Word.
- D. Truths exhorting us “**to believe**” God’s Word.
1. We respond by **thanking Him** for a particular truth.
 - a. The Holy Spirit, on occasions, will tenderize our heart by such simple declarations of thanksgiving for particular truths.
 - b. Take time to say thank you in a specific way. Don’t get in a hurry. We must be patient and speak slowly in our heart to God.
 2. We respond by **asking Him to more fully reveal** this particular truth to us
 - a. For example, when the Lord declares that we have ravished His heart as His sister and Bride, then respond by asking Him for a greater heart revelation of this truth.
 - b. Be persistent. Ask Him to open the eyes of your heart like Paul prayed in Eph. 1:17-18. The Holy Spirit will cause your insight to gradually increase.

3. When reading the passage where the Bride says to Jesus “Your love is better than wine” (SS 4:10), stop and say “thank You Jesus that You’re love really is better than the wine of this world’s pleasures.”
4. Then take it the next step and say, “Reveal this truth to me. Give me a spirit of revelation concerning the truth that Your love is better than all the wine this world has to offer.”

E. Truths exhorting us “**to obey**” God’s Word.

For example, the Lord exhorts the Bride to arise in obedience to follow Him to the mountains of hardship and risk, leaving the comfort zone (SS 2:8-10). The Holy Spirit exhorts us to obey a truth like this.

1. **Commit yourself to obey** Jesus in the way described in a particular passage. Specifically speak to Jesus the intent of your heart to obey the passage. Making sweet resolutions to obey Him in a specific way will strengthen your obedience over time.
2. Ask the Lord to **empower your heart to obey** a particular truth. Specifically, ask Jesus to empower your heart to obey the passage. Such requests for divine aid to obey will result in a growth in grace over time.
3. In the passage where Jesus exhorts us to arise in obedience to follow Him to the mountains of hardship and risk, stop and say, “I commit myself to obey the challenge You have set before me.” And then take it the next step and say “empower me by Your Spirit to obey this truth set before me.”

F. Take time to record your thoughts, prayers and meditations as you “pray-read” through the SONG on the backside of each page.

1. The simple exercise of writing your ideas will help you take this magnificent song and turn it into a glorious prayer dialogue between your heart and Jesus. This SONG must be turned into prayer meditation and reading in order to enjoy its full benefit.
2. My concern is that some will only study the SONG without going to the next step of turning it into a prayerful dialogue with Jesus. We must approach this SONG as much more than just an intellectual exercise. This love song has so much more to give us than information about a natural love song. Informing the intellect is only a starting point much like studying the menu at a good restaurant. The point of studying the menu is to eventually enjoy the dinner.

III. THE EIGHT REVELATIONS OF JESUS IN THE SONG

- A. Jesus reveals 8 different facets of His personality in the SONG. Each one reveals a unique aspect of His relationship with the Bride.
- B. Isaiah declares the wonder and beauty of Jesus in four different names – Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace, Everlasting Father (Is 9:6). Each name speaks of a unique way that Jesus relates to us. Every time that God names Himself, He is giving a revelation of how He wants to relate to us. Thus, every title gives us a powerful devotional truth.
- C. The Cherubim (Ez. 1) and Seraphim (Rev. 4) are two distinct groups of the highest, most exalted beings around the throne of God. Each group shows forth 4 different faces that reveal the beauty of God. The face of a man, a lion, a calf (or oxen) and flying eagle. Each reveals different facets of the beauty of Jesus. Both groups are called 4 living creatures.
- D. An examination of the 8 Revelations of the beauty of Jesus in the SONG.
 - 1. When integrating the 4 names of Jesus in Is.9 with the 4 faces of the living creatures we discover they are all reflected and expressed in the 8 faces of Jesus presented in the SONG
 - a. The 4 names of Jesus in Is. 9:6, (Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace)
 - b. The 4 faces of the living creatures in Ez. 1:10 and Rev. 4:7 (Face of a man, lion, calf, and that of an eagle).
 - 2. The eight faces of Jesus in Song of Solomon are as follows:
 - a. The Counseling Shepherd (1:8)
 - b. The Affectionate Father (1:12 - 2:6)
 - c. The Sovereign King (2:8-9)
 - d. The Safe Savior (3:6-8)
 - e. The Heavenly Bridegroom (4:1-15)
 - f. The Suffering Servant (5:2)
 - g. The Majestic God (5:10-16)
 - h. The Consuming Fire (8:6-7)

- E. Face of an Oxen** as the Wonderful Counselor and Suffering Servant (1:8-11 and 5:2-7)
1. Counseling Shepherd serves the Bride (1:7-11)
Note the language of a shepherd 1:8-11
 2. Suffering Servant calls the Bride to join Him (5:2-7)
Burden of Cross (5:2)
- F. Face of a Lion** as the Prince of Peace and Sovereign King (2:8-9 and 3:6-11)
1. Sovereign King (2:8-9) Note language of authority over all mountains, etc.
 2. Safe Savior (3:6-11) He is the Heavenly Prince whose government brings peace, safety and security to the Bride. Note language of protection (discipline & safety)
- G. Face of a Man** as the Heavenly Bridegroom expressing the heart of the Everlasting Father (1:12-2:7; 4:1-15:1)
1. Heart of the Father (1:12-2:7)
Affectionate Father grants her the assurance of enjoyment. Note the language of the Father bringing Her to the banqueting table. (Luke 15:20) in His embrace (2:6)
 2. Heavenly Bridegroom
(Most prominent revelation in the SONG (4: 1-15; 6: 4-5) Note language of bridal affection (7:5-10)
 3. There are 2 distinct expressions of the Heavenly Bridegroom in chapter 4
 - a. The Prophetic Heart of the Heavenly Bridegroom (4:1-5)
 - b. The Ravished Heart of the Heavenly Bridegroom (4:8-15)
- H. Face of an Eagle** as the Mighty God and the Consuming Fire(5:10-16; 8:6-7)
1. The Majestic God (SS 5:10-16) Note language of splendor & awe.
 2. The Consuming fire (8:6-7 and Deut. 4:24). Consuming Fire of a Jealous God (8:5-7) Note language of fiery supernatural love.

IV. THE GREATEST PROPHETIC SONG

The Song of Songs, which is Solomon's. (Song 1:1)

A. “The Song of Songs”

1. Solomon wrote 1005 songs (1 Kings 4:32). He was a very prolific and gifted songwriter. This is his best song, thus referred to as the Song of Songs. This expresses the superlative as Jesus is the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords who dwells in the Holy of Holies
 - a. These Biblical phrases express the superlative. Solomon in Ecclesiastes talks about the vanity of vanities. This phrase denotes the highest superlative possible.
 - b. When Solomon describes this song as the Song of Songs, it conveys in the Hebrew language, the Highest of the Highest. There's no song higher than the Song of all songs. The Holy Spirit puts it on par with King of kings, Lord of lords, Holy of Holies.
2. This Song is named with the highest honor. I believe it is the greatest song ever penned by the redeemed in all redemptive history. Therefore I believe it is the greatest prophetic song given to the church age.
3. There are 23 songs/prayers in Revelation. At least ten of them can be considered songs. I call them the top ten of heaven.
 - a. My theory is that John only gave us the titles of the songs that are sung in heaven. It is possible that the songs themselves are probably quite lengthy songs filled with the glory of God.
 - b. The Spirit of God drops down into the spirit of His people little fragments of eternal songs that are currently being sung in Heaven.
 - c. We have a tremendous time when one of those songs is released on this side of eternity. They are songs that flow out from the heart of God.
 - d. Heaven is full of songs, but this song is the greatest song of all redemptive history.

4. I believe the greatest Song of all songs surpasses even the songs highlighted in the book of Revelation. There is great power in this 8-chapter love song.
 - a. As the songs in the book of Revelation are just hints pointing to the full meaning of songs in heaven, so also I believe this 8-chapter love-song is only a hint to the fullness of this song as it exists in the heart of God.
 - b. I believe there is significant meaning behind every sentence in this SONG. I long to enjoy the full meaning of it when I get to heaven. I believe my theory about this SONG is reasonable and within the framework of biblical truth; however, I cannot strictly prove that the Song of all Songs is undisputedly the greatest song in redemptive history.

- B. The purpose of prophetic songs is to reveal the fresh heart of Jesus. These songs speak of the beauty, splendor and majesty of His personality. John said ‘the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy’ (Rev. 19:10)
 1. Did you know that Jesus has a testimony? What do I mean by His testimony? It is the fresh thing that is on the heart of Jesus. This testimony is centered on the cross, but it also includes what He thinks and feels about future events. The testimony of Jesus reveals the things pulsating on His heart
 2. Jesus has a testimony that He wants proclaimed to the nations. This testimony reveals what He is thinking, feeling and doing in the past, present and future. In God’s economy these are all unified in the eternal present tense.

- C. The end-time saints are pictured as standing around the throne of God on the sea of glass like crystal, singing 2 songs. The saints come off of the final assault of Satan in victory as they are standing in this great climatic hour of history; they sing the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb.
 - 2 *And I saw something like a sea of glass mingled with fire, and those who have the victory over the beast... standing on the sea of glass, having harps of God.*
 - 3 *They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb...(Rev 15:2-3)*

1. The song of Moses is recorded the Bible (Exodus 15:1-21; Deut. 31:30-32:47)
 2. They were martyred, but they were victorious. This reveals their undying love which was greater than anything they loved on the earth. This did not mean that they avoided martyrdom. They were victorious in that they did not lose their love in the midst of martyrdom.
 3. The Holy Spirit is on the sea of glass like fire inspiring and empowering the saints to extravagantly worship. Their worship is mingled with flaming fire, which is the very power of God Himself inspiring their worship on the sea of glass like crystal.
- D. Jesus, the Lamb of God, has a song called the Lamb's song.
1. Jesus is the Word of God made flesh and His Name is called "The Word of God." (Jn1: 1,14 and Rev.19: 13).
 2. I believe that the One, who is called the Word of God, has His song expressed and recorded in the written word of God
 3. Is there a song greater than the Lamb's song for his bride? I cannot imagine what song it would be.
 4. My conclusion is that the song the Lamb sings over His Bride is the only song that could qualify to be called the greatest Song by the Holy Spirit.
 - a. Question: since Moses' song is in the scripture is the Lamb's own song also recorded in the scripture?
 - b. Is it possible that the Lamb's song is also recorded in the Scripture? I cannot imagine Moses' song being recorded but the Lamb's song never being recorded in the written word of God.
 5. Is the Lamb's song the greatest song of all songs or would it be possible for another song to be greater than the Lamb's song for His Bride?
 - a. The Bride of Christ is referred to in scripture as the Lamb's wife (Rev. 19:7-9; 21:9). Is the Lamb's song for the Lamb's wife? I think so. I can't imagine Jesus' Song over His people being second to the greatest Song of all.

- b. My theory is that the Lamb's Song and the greatest Song are synonymous.
- E. Jesus sings many different songs over His church through people inspired by the Holy Spirit. Jesus said to the Father *"I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You."* (Heb 2:12)
- 1. This passage was written for the New Testament church. It gives insight into the fact that Jesus sings in the midst of the Spirit led congregation.
 - 2. How is it that Jesus sings to the Church?
 - a. Firstly, He will sing directly to His brethren.
 - b. Secondly, He will sing of the heart of God – things that bring focussed praise to God.
 - c. Thirdly, He sings it in the midst of the congregation of God's people.
 - 3. How does Jesus sing in the midst of the congregation?
 - a. One way is through spontaneous prophetic songs. In other words the Holy Spirit inspires a person to sing the word of God in the form of a spontaneous song.
 - b. Another way is through the use of a solo written ahead of time etc.
 - 4. The Son of God has many songs He sings in the midst of the congregation over His people. I believe that there is one special song that he enjoys above all other songs.
- F. Jesus washes His Bride with the word of God using Genesis to Revelation. Paul the apostle described Jesus' use of the scripture (specifically referring to the Old testament scriptures) to sanctify His bride - *"that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word"* (Eph 5:26)
- G. Since Jesus' primary agent of cleansing is the scripture and since he described himself as singing over the people to the Father (Heb 2:12) then the following must be considered. How much more will Jesus use the "song of all songs" to cherish and romance His beloved people, especially at the end of the age?
- H. I believe there is going to be multitudes of new songs written in our day that will capture and express the unique themes of this SONG.

1. My prayer and conviction is that there is going to be a revival of interest in the Song of Solomon in the final generation. The Holy Spirit will cause this SONG to become prominent again and will raise up men and women, young and old that will proclaim it, sing it, write about it and intercede it back to God until a revival of Holy Passion breaks out worldwide.
 2. Already, we are witnessing a significant increase of new songs being written with bridal themes that extol the beauty of Jesus as seen in the Song of Songs.
- I. Practical Advice to Songwriters
1. The following is some practical advice to songwriters. I believe that it is not best to merely sing the exact phrases of this SONG, rather it usually is better to interpret the practical meaning of these exact phrases. Since many of the verses contain symbolic language those who have not yet studied the symbolism of the SONG will not be equipped to receive much from such new songs.
 2. Songwriters need to first properly understand and then to interpret the symbolism they are singing about in order for others to be best edified.
 3. Songwriters need to take only small portions of the SONG as material for the new songs they are writing under the Holy Spirit's inspiration. These songwriters must remember that this SONG has been entrusted to us the form of 8 highly concentrated chapters.
 - a. It is the longest and most intense song in the entire bible. It is in a "dense concentrated" form. The Lord has hidden a significant amount of truth in many of the sentences in the SONG making it a concentrated form of revelation.
 - b. The Lord wants to give small portions of this song to His songwriters to capture specific aspects in each new song.
 - c. One phrase in this SONG can expand into many ideas. Each phrase is power packed. It is best to break down the large passages into separate new songs instead of seeking to cover too many verses in each new song. This will cause the people listening to be able to understand and enjoy them.

4. What I encourage the singers to do is to take a several meaningful phrases, and discern one of the meanings intended by Spirit of God's. Develop that meaning and sing it. Take just a thought or two and use a little bit of the language, but interpret it so that others can understand it.
5. There are going to be multitudes of new prophetic songs that are just little slivers out of this fantastic SONG of grandeur and splendor.
6. I was at a large conference where a man said; "The Lord has spoken to us powerfully in England that He is going to reveal the Song of Solomon to the church." I was overjoyed as I heard him testify that Jesus told them that He was going to reveal His heart specifically through the Song of Solomon.
7. One of my life prayers has been to ask the Lord to inspire 10,000 preachers, writers and singers, men and women both young and old to take this message and run with it to the highways and byways.

V. THE UNIQUE FOCUS OF THIS SONG

- A. The general purpose of this book is to fully capture people's heart by the greatest prophetic song ever. However there are several very clear unique distinctives related to the SONG.
 1. A condensed revelation of the passionate affections in Jesus' personality including His enjoyment and affection for weak yet sincere believers.
 2. Insight into the beauty of Jesus specifically as a Bridegroom King.
 3. The revelation of the unique beauty and loveliness of the individual believer.
 4. The revelation of the honor and beauty of the corporate church through history.
 5. The principles related specifically to growing in the first commandment and mature bridal partnership with Jesus.
- B. Though the SONG does not teach us anything that is not said in many other places in the Bible, its uniqueness is found in how focussed and concentrated these truths are presented. This concentration creates an intensity of these subjects that is nowhere else in the bible.

1. Every one of these principles we will examine are found in other places outside of Song of Solomon. I wouldn't believe a doctrine if it were only found in the SONG. These truths are strongly established in scripture from Genesis to Revelation.
 2. It is the focus that makes this Song very unique. The actual concept that God's heart is ravished over us is not unique, but the way that it is expressed in the SONG is unique.
- C. Our soul comprises many different emotional aspects is. Certain aspects of our heart can only be touched through divine poetic romance. We were created in such a way that the divine poetic romantic language of love touches a deep part of our makeup that other aspects of God's truth do not touch in the same way.
- D. Part of our being was created to respond best to this concentrated revelation of His passion. Other parts of our human makeup respond to other benefits of the cross, which are also wonderful foundational doctrines that we never outgrow.
- E. God wants to touch our whole heart. Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord God with a whole heart" (Matt. 22:37). The whole heart is like a diamond that has many different angles. It is as if He is shooting a holy laser beam of the revelation of His passionate affection into us.
1. The idea that Jesus has strong and deep emotions of desire for people on the earth seems unrealistic and impossible. The idea of Jesus possessing such diversity of emotion is so difficult for some of us. Only a diet of pure undiluted concentrate will heal the emotional damage of some. Some can only imagine an aloof God who does not get emotionally involved unless we sin. Yet, we need to consider that the reason we have such strong and diverse emotions is because He has them.
 2. We are so used to viewing God through only one lens. It is sometimes takes hard work and effort to renew our minds to the truth of Jesus.

VI. THE 3-FOLD INHERITANCE—PS. 2:11-12

- A. Psalm 2 is a famous messianic Psalm. In verses 7-9 David describes Jesus' prayer for His inheritance. Then in Psalm 2:11-12 David describes Jesus' 3-fold inheritance: as a people that would tremble, rejoice and kiss the Son of God. This is one of most concise and clear descriptions of the heart of the mature bride.
- B. Three sides of our redemption
1. **Trembling** – We tremble by seeing the eternal majesty and splendor of Jesus as a Bridegroom, King and Judge. When we see these truths we tremble before Him. The majestic trembling dimension to our redemption is very significant side to our redemption.
 2. **Rejoicing** –We rejoice by seeing who we are in Christ and as we understand the legal and practical side of our redemption. We rejoice in discovering the benefits of the cross as we flow in our gifts while serving in the community of God.
 3. **Kissing** - There is the emotional and passionate side of our redemption where our hearts are enflamed by His beauty as we are empowered to fulfil the first commandment.
- C. Three significant books of the Bible that focus on these three sides of our redemption
1. Revelation - **the majestic eternal side** that causes us to tremble before our eternal God.
 2. Romans - **the legal practical side** that causes us to rejoice in our benefits
 3. Song of Solomon - **the passionate emotional side**: that empowers us to restore the first commandment to first place

- D. Typically most groups focus on only one of the 3 sides of redemption. Some of them go as far as to alienate the other two. However, we want to experience all 3 sides of redemption in order to be a people that tremble, rejoice, and kiss the Son
1. Some unbalanced holiness groups seek to tremble before the Lord while neglecting the elements of rejoicing and kissing the Son. They can be tempted with legalism and a morbid approach to holiness.
 2. Some unbalanced groups, which are very common today especially in the charismatic side of the church, focus on rejoicing while neglecting the trembling and kissing side of redemption. They are tempted with carnality and compromise as they pursue a happy life in God.
 3. Some unbalanced groups especially some of the monastic groups in medieval times and certain puritan groups in the 17th century focussed on kissing the Son while neglecting the rejoicing and trembling side of redemption. They are tempted with unbalanced isolation and asceticism as they pursue a life of union with God.

E. SUMMARY

We believe the Holy Spirit will provide the sufficient revelation and release of power in the inner man to equip the Bride to live in all 3 sides of redemption that she might be the inheritance the Father promised His Son.