

Song 1

This is the first song of a series of six. It is one song, in six parts, it is the greatest love song ever written. It reveals How the Love of God changes our life: it reveals the pattern of how His love is developed in our lives. It describes our growth and development in His Spirit; how His spirit is perfected in us. Some of us grow faster than others. This song only applies to those who desire an intimate relationship with God- who desire oneness with God.

The first song is a revelation of God's love for us, He desires us in such a way that He wants to have an intimate relationship with us, more intimate than a husband and wife can experience on a human level. God wants to marry us-to become one with us. As He begins to draw us to Himself and in that sense of nearness we begin to experience His presence. His Spirit literally comes upon us where we can feel the essence of who He is. In His presence we experience His love for us which passes our ability to comprehend how someone could love us so much. We begin to experience His Joy which surpasses any pleasurable feeling we have known so that we cannot describe it adequately with words.

As we encounter the glory of which He is, through the revelation that comes in being aware of His Presence, we experience the first crisis in our relationship. We see how we have fallen short of His character and we feel unclean when His presence lifts off of us. He begins to assure our heart in confidence that he sees us as beautiful to Him, and desires to be with us. Because of this overwhelming pleasure we experience when our senses are aware of Him, we begin to be motivated to come to him even when we feel unclean.

When we first opened up our heart to the Lord, He revealed Himself to us by opening up our spiritual eyes. But little do we realize

how much he loves us, His love for us is beyond what we could imagine, He lives in the realm of eternity-he already see's us perfect, and calls those things that are not- into existence! The word of God is a love story, and he is opening up our eyes to see the beauty of it.

When we received His Spirit, we receive a measure of His love. This measure is going to begin to expand. Our love for God grows, as His love for us is realized. The love of God in our spirit begins to be activated as we come in contact with His presence.

Every movement in our heart toward Him is the result of His Spirit working in our heart. He totally accepts our spirit-it was made alive with His Eternal life, and in the atmosphere of His Presence it will begin to grow in the divine attributes of God. It is as our spirit comes in contact with the Holy Spirit (His Presence) His love for us is awakened, and our spirit loves Him back.

When we hear the voice of the Spirit saying I love you, His presence breaks through the darkness of our heart, and we realize His love for us has not diminished in its intensity, because of our inability to love Him back. He enjoys and delights in us even in our weakness, because He sees His own desire in our heart to love Him back. He loves us more than a Mother can love her new born son. He loves us more passionately than a man can love a woman, or woman can love a man. He loves us with the same identical love, the same way He loves His first born son-The Lord Jesus Christ. God loves us the same way He loves Himself. It is what the world calls falling in love. But His love is a part of His Glory that He shares with His beloved.

The Holy Spirit is calling us to make intimacy with God the Primary goal of our life. His purpose is to reveal the deep things of God's Spirit by imparting them to us. To fill us with the Father's love, so that we can love Him back. The language of the song must get into our thought life;

get into our prayer life, before it can begin to transform our emotions. It is the passionate and emotional side of us that empowers us to love God. When the Spirit comes upon our soul-fills our soul he occupies our entire inner being. The word has to get from the intellect into our emotions and then deep into our spirit, so that it becomes a subconscious part of our life. Informing our intellect is necessary but it is only a starting point.

We have to open up our spirit to the Lord, knowing that He accepts it. Many believers seek God with a closed spirit, because of areas of their soul that are not transformed so their heart condemns them; their relationship with God is clouded. Our experience of God's love cannot be quenched or drown by the flood of emotions we experience in the soulish realm, once our spirit comes in contact with His. It is when our spirit is in contact with God's Holy Spirit that our soul feels the love of God. As our spirit is built up in the love of God, then what we feel in the soulish realm does not have the power to move us, because we know in our spirit that God loves us and accepts our spirit, and the soulish emotions contrary to God's spirit will pass away.

Song of Solomon 1:1 The song of songs, which is Solomon's. ²Let him kiss (touch lightly, blessing, dearness of relationship, acceptance) me with (out of) the kisses (showing intimacy of relationship) of his mouth (instrument of speech, speech itself):

We are the maiden (a young unmarried woman) in the story. The king is Jesus-(the living word of God). We request the kisses of the King's mouth. The divine kiss is a metaphor for intimacy with God. We desire the intimacy of the Word, the revelation of the Spirit in the Word, the Presence of God in the word. The Word of God is what proceeds from the mouth of God, which contains His Spirit. God imparts Himself in the Word he reveals to our heart. The divine kiss is where we have a meeting with God where His Spirit touches us. Where

the Spirit of God breaths on the Word and it becomes alive to us and we experience it. It is where His Spirit comes upon our soul and we can feel His Presence. It is where the Holy Spirit expands our capacity to receive His love and to give ourselves back to Him in love. It is the touch of God that softens our heart. It removes that which hinders the flow of God's Spirit.

Let him kiss me! It is the prophetic cry the Spirit of God puts in our heart. We are asking God to remove the veil that separates us from intimacy with Him. This must become the supreme request of our life; God must circumcise our heart in order for us to love Him. It is only in this atmosphere of intimacy, that we are empowered to begin to keep the first commandment, to love God with the whole of our being.

The ultimate purpose and meaning of our life is to experience intimacy with God. The absolute definition of success in life is to be a whole-hearted lover of God. When we know in our spirit that we are loved by God, and it is our supreme desire to love God with all our heart, then we will begin to pursue a personal relationship with him where we can experience His Spirit.

God has so designed us so that experiencing His love is the most desirable, pleasurable experience we can have. We were created to love God with all of our heart, it is the first commandment. Unless we pursue it as our life goal, our life becomes emotionally imbalanced. We cannot attain spiritual, mental, emotional wholeness, until His love fills every area of our heart. Unless we pursue after God with a whole heart, nothing else will work. We will always feel that emptiness until we learn how to be continually filled with the Spirit. To try to fill the void with other things, will end in vanity. We enter the rest of intimacy with God, as His Spirit possesses our heart, where we become His inheritance.

For thy love is better (well-pleasing, pleasant, appealing) *than wine* (that which makes the heart glad).

The only way that the supreme request of our life will be for intimacy with God is when we truly experience that His love is better than wine. One moment in His manifest Presence is better than anything else we could experience.

The word of God commands us to be not drunk with wine, but to be continually filled with the Spirit. The wine referred to here speaks of the best experiences that we can have in the natural realm. The wine refers to the pleasures of this world, but it also refers to all the blessings God can give us in the natural realm. His glory, his nature, his love is better than all the best possible circumstances that God promises to add to us if we seek first His Kingdom and His Righteousness.

As we experience His Glory, His essence and nature, there is created in us an insatiable desire (always wanting more) for Him. It becomes an all consuming desire! We hunger and thirst! One moment in His presence, in the beauty room, in the bedroom of God is better than anything else the human heart could experience.

Many experience God's blessings in the natural realm. The increases in material blessing-prosperity, respect, prominence, but not increase in the capacity of the heart to love. When the focus of our heart shifts, we drift from true success-intimacy with the Heart of God. If material blessings increase we are not to set our heart upon them.

The greatest blessings we can experience are spiritual blessings. The greatest blessing is the increase in our capacity to hold more of God's Spirit in our heart. The pleasures at the right hand of God are far

greater than any pleasure we can experience outside of Him-the pleasure of sin.

If we have never experienced the joy that comes from an awareness of His Presence, we need to find someone who has-who can minister the baptism of the Spirit to us. It is the joy of the Lord that is our strength, and it comes by being in His presence, when His love has broken through the darkness of our heart. It is this Love which causes us to lay down our life for Him. When a person comes to know the Lord, it is not a sacrifice to physically die-it is an anticipation to be forever in His Presence. Without His manifest love and joy in our heart, we will never overcome the world-that which separates us from Him. The way our heart gets free from the dominion of sin, is through the delight that comes through intimacy with Him.

The way that the Father loves Jesus, is the same identical way and measure that He loves us. God's love is His deep desire, His intense longing to marry us-to be one with us. We must realize that he delights in and enjoys us when our desire is towards Him, even in our weakness. If we are struggling to overcome something, it is a sure sign that our desire is toward Him. It is through our awareness of His great love for us-which causes us to come to Him, instead of turning from him if we are still struggling with sin.

³Because of the savour (aroma, fragrance, scent, smell) of thy good (well pleasing, pleasant) ointments (oil, richness, plenty, strength, fertility) thy name (identifies the person) is as ointment poured forth (to pour out-to draw out), therefore (1-upon 2-cause and effect) do the virgins (a marriageable young woman) love thee.

The virgins are all those who's spirits have been quickened with the Life of God, there are immature and have the potential of marriage

to the King. They have tasted of the Glory of God in a measure. Some will become wise, the rest will remain foolish.

The fragrance, aroma, sweet smell of our favorite flower comes from its internal properties and qualities. The anointing of His Spirit, the atmosphere of His Presence comes from the essence of who He is. His nature, His divine qualities are always manifested in the works or things He does. The name of Jesus identifies who he is, there is no other name given that saves us from all that is not like Him. The power, the anointing released in His name not only sets us free from the power of sin, but cleanses the atmosphere so that His nature is released- so that we experience the joy and love and freedom there is in His Presence.

The fragrance of Jesus is figurative for the knowledge of God. The knowledge of God is the heart of God-the way he thinks and the way he feels, it is the life force that moves and motivates Him, it is the essence of which he is, and it never changes. To partake of the Knowledge of God is to partake of Him. It is to experience His thoughts, feelings and the atmosphere which his being emits (to send or give out something) and radiates (energy it sends out). ***2 cor2:14 now thanks be to God who always leads us to triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.***

God's perfume speaks of His internal life, His eternal life, of what He thinks and feels, His thought life and emotional makeup, especially his affection for His people. When perfume is in the air we can feel the impact of it. When we can feel God's spirit in the air, His Presence in the atmosphere, it powerfully affects our heart.

As the knowledge of His heart is poured out, the beauty of His character is revealed and we can feel His love for us. The more the true knowledge of God is poured out, the more His love is imparted to us.

When God reveals Himself to us it exhilarates, it excites, thrills, invigorates, refreshes, energizes our spirit, strengthening it with might in the inner man, through his spirit, his love being poured forth within our heart enabling us to walk in righteousness.

Worship is the highest form of love, and as we learn how to continually worship the Lord in spirit and truth, we learn how to be continually filled with His Spirit enabling us to walk in His Spirit.

⁴*Draw* (lovingly leading, to draw out sensitivity, to pull out of a location) *me, we will run* (to travel, sense of urgency, concern, excitement) *after* (to pursue something) *thee*;

As we press into intimacy with the Lord, others will run with us. We run after the Lord, we pursue Him, we follow on to know Him.

We love the Lord because He first loves us. It is as He draws us that we begin to pursue Him. He draws us causing us to move in a particular direction, the Lord pulls us to himself. He leads us in a certain direction, towards himself and away from that which hinders us. He draws the curtain or blind from our eyes so that it uncovers his goodness. He pulls us out of that which has trapped us or is embedded in our heart and gives us weapons (spiritual principles) which we can draw upon, which we can use. We draw upon him as our source, we draw His strength. It is his attracting influence that draws us.

the king (individual with authority-power) *hath brought* (coming to or arriving) *me into his chambers* (inner chamber-bedroom, a meeting place, a room used for a particular purpose, an enclosed space): *we will be glad* (response-to rejoice) *and rejoice* (being happy) *in thee, we will remember* (recall, think about) *thy love more than wine* (that which makes the heart glad): *the upright* (level path of righteousness free from difficulties) *love thee*.

The more our heart gets free, the greater our capacity is to love Him. It is the pure in heart that see, and the more we can see spiritually, the stronger our love gets.

The King's chamber is a bridal chamber, the beauty room of God, the secret place of intimacy with God. It is in these times were we experience communion with God, that we receive impartations of His Spirit as we experience closeness with the Lord. We receive impressions upon our soul that form and fashion our inner man. It is the times that the Lord draws us to Himself where we experience His affection, the times when He warns us and those times when he promises us things, reveals to us His will and our spirit grows.

The King's chamber is a time of preparation that we might be enabled to love and obey the Lord as He reveals to us what He is leading us to do in active service. We ask the Lord to draw us (take the initiative to help us) and carry us into His chambers.

As we learn to walk with God we are not going to feel the Lord's presence during the times our soul is dying to this world. Our confession of faith in times when our soul is troubled is-***The King has brought me into His chambers. We will be glad and rejoice in You. We will remember Your love (affection) more than wine.*** We rejoice in and remember His tender mercy in times of weakness. We rejoice in and remember His exhilarating Spirit that is better than wine. We rejoice in and remember His leadership over our lives in times of difficulty and testing. We remember His love in times of despair and spiritual warfare. We are accountable to remember those times of intimacy with the Lord by setting our soul to agree with what God spoke to us when were in His manifest Presence. We engage in spiritual warfare by proclaiming God's Word as darkness assaults our heart. We must renew our mind as we refuse to lose anything that God gave us in the chamber experiences. In the darkness of the midnight hour, we remember the

revelation He gave us in His chambers. ***His banner (leadership) over me was love. We know that all things work together for good to those who love God... (Rom. 8:28)*** If tempted, we remember and confess that His affections and promises are better than the wine of this fallen world.

⁵*I am black* (dark, disease infected heart), *but comely* (beautiful, what is pleasing), *O ye daughters of Jerusalem* (height or foundation of peace), *as the tents* (dwelling, people, group) *of Kedar, as the curtains* (a hanging) *of Solomon.* ⁶*Look* (spiritual observation) *not upon me, because* (1-who 2-yes I am) *I am black* (dark), *because the sun* (sun becomes hot, fire of testing) *hath looked* (1-which 2-to burn, darken) *upon me:*

Our walk with God begins with a two-fold revelation. We are dark in heart but lovely to God. As God begins to reveal Himself to us- we see His Glory and we see how we have or are falling short of it. The light of God reveals sin-that which has been motivating us and controlling us other than His Spirit. The Holy Spirit allows us to see our sinfulness as well as our loveliness to God. The conviction of the Spirit reveals God's wisdom-the foolishness of sin. He reveals the beauty of possessing the divine nature, and God's love for us in our weakness.

When we see the darkness in our heart, if we do not also see that even in our darkness we are lovely to God, our spiritual growth will be hindered. Shame causes us to draw away from God not towards Him. To be set free from unrighteousness which causes sin, we first must come into complete agreement with God by saying the same thing about it as He does. As we walk in the light, it increases so that we see more of the darkness that is in our heart. We have a greater capacity for sin than we can comprehend. No one can fully grasp the depth of our capacity to sin if our heart is not under His influence. The potential lies below the surface, but for the grace of God there go I.

The more light we have, the more we see the darkness in our heart. We are a three part being, the body is dead because of sin, our flesh and blood body cannot inherit the kingdom-it must be glorified. Knowledge of our weak flesh is necessary, it also needs divine life. If we are not feeling physically good, it affects our soul and our contact with the Lord. The victory of the Lord starts first in our spirit, our sincere intention to obey God: The first step to spiritual victory is our sincere desire to obey God. Our sincere intentions must be distinguished from mature attainment of obedience. Our intentions are where our victory begins. The Spirit is the author of such sincere desires. Part of how God measures and defines our life is by these intentions. He rejoices in them. As we begin to walk in the word we experience partial breakthrough yet with a continued struggle: We are victorious on a regular basis yet still war with our flesh in a particular area of our life. The transformation of our soul is progressive. Some struggle more than others depending upon their live experiences. When we finally come into a walk in the spirit we experience substantial breakthrough with transformed desires: Our desires are dramatically changed so that we rarely even struggle in a previous area of sin

When we see our sin through God's eyes it can be so overwhelming that we say, ***Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath darken me.*** The sun refers to our life experiences-what is done under the sun. How we relate to God during this time is very important. If we continue to feel dirty we will live dirty. We need to learn how to appropriate forgiveness and cleansing through the Blood. When we have fully appropriated forgiveness, the force and guilt of sin is removed from us. Our sin does not exist, it has been removed. Repentance is a gift and is worked deep within us so that we know, it will always be in the past and God heals the memories of it in us-He alone has the power to forget, and does not remember our sins.

The dark tents of Kedar speak of the darkness of the flesh. They were blackened tents made of the dark skins of wild goats. This is our flesh that the world sees before we are transformed. The curtains of Solomon were the white curtains in the holy place in the Temple. They speak of the inward work of grace in our spirit. The beauty of these curtains was not seen by all those in the outer court. We are like dark tents on the outside, but inside we are beautiful like the curtains of Solomon in the holy place.” Outwardly, people see the manifestations of our flesh. But God sees the desire of our spirit on the inside, like the white curtains in Solomon’s temple.

my mother's (church) *children* (relational term) *were angry* (burn, be kindled, vexed) *with me; they made* (to appoint) *me the keeper* (to take care of) *of the vineyards* (grapes-wine produced, the grapes have to be crushed-die-for wine to be produced); *but mine own vineyard* (vines-increase) *have I not kept* (take care of, to be angry).

Because our conversion is genuine we have a zeal for God, he reveals our shortcomings and we feel dirty. We begin to go to church, but most churches are not mature. Because of our zeal and a lack of true spiritual leadership in the church, those building a personal kingdom (name for their selves) put us to work in their ministry, and we tend to neglect our own personal walk with God. Those in leadership do not have a corresponding love to their revelation, or prophetic vision and tend to put us down-where we are falling short. Because we haven’t yet learned how to walk with God, we get burnt out-dry, we need to learn how to get refreshed in the presence of the Lord.

⁷*Tell me* (make known, reveal, explain), *O thou whom my soul* (inner being with its thoughts and emotions) *loveth* (1-who 2-desire to be in the presence of, emotional attachment, to become a passionate lover), *where* (how?-expressing mourning, we are fed as we enter into the secret place) *thou feedest* (lead the sheep to eat, relationship of

friendship), *where* (how?-expressing ,mourning) *thou makest thy flock to rest* (to lie down-rest, lay something down, the Spirit coming upon-to rest) *at noon* (broad daylight): *for* (who, what) *why* (no value)*should I be* (to exist) *as one that turneth aside* (keep out of sight, clothed in shame) *by* (with respect to)*the flocks* (a group of sheep)*of thy companions* (those who associate with Jesus)?

Jesus reveals himself to us as the counseling Sheppard, the Holy Spirit becomes a Father to us.

Our soul loves being in the presence of the Lord, we ask how do we appropriate more of you Lord? We no longer fit in the old order church, we cannot get fed there, and we seem out of place.

⁸*If* (condition) *thou know* (experience) *not, O thou fairest* (beautiful, lovely) *among women* (bone of my bones-virgins), *go thy way* (movement) *forth by the footsteps* (back, rear, heel) *of the flock* (sheep), *and feed* (tend, care for, Sheppard) *thy kids* (a tender word-referring to the young goats) *beside the shepherds* (to feed, to be a friend)' *tents* (dwelling, sanctuary).

The Lord responds to us by telling us that we are beautiful to Him, we have been chosen out of the world of people. To walk after the faith of those who have gone before us. The Lord tells us that we will be fed as we minister to the little ones, the newly born. As we share the little that we know to the little one's the Lord gives us more.

⁹*I have compared* (to be like, to make like) *thee, O my love* (the beloved of the bridegroom, lover, darling), *to a company of horses* (mare-female horse) *in Pharaoh's* (the king of Egypt) *chariots* (symbol of royal authority, engine of war).

¹⁰*Thy cheeks* (to be soft, emotions) *are comely* (to be beautiful, fitting, appropriate-in order) *with rows* (an orderly set of jewelry) *of jewels, thy neck* (a feature of beauty and strength, necklace) *with chains* (strings of jewels) *of gold* (divine nature).

¹¹*We will make* (performing and activity with a distinct purpose and goal in view, to accomplish, complete) *thee borders* (earrings, jewelry of all kind for beauty, an opportunity, a person's allotted time and place in a predetermined series) *of gold* (divine nature) *with studs* (bead, small spheres of silver placed on a necklace) *of silver* (redemption).

¹²*While* (of time meaning until) *the king* (1-who 2-Lord) *sitteth at his table* (table-meaning around, the surrounding area, all over it)(the atmosphere of the Spirit upon us revealing the word), *my spikenard* (perfume, pleasant fragrant ointment) *sendeth forth* (to give-to place, the production of fruit, presentation of an offering, the exchange of something) *the smell* (sweet smelling, aroma, fragrance, odor) *thereof*.

Jesus reveals himself to us as the affectionate father, as we sit at his table and learn from Him.

When the Holy Spirit opens our eyes, breathing upon the word-illuminating our understanding, worship spontaneously ascends from our spirit like perfume. The revelation of the word conceives in our spirit to produce fruit. Spike-of nard was an eastern plant from India used to make expensive perfumes.

¹³*A bundle* (container) *of myrrh* (fragrant resin from several plants found in Africa and Arabia, bitter in taste, used for burial, used in the anointing oil, used figurative of love) *is my well-beloved* (loved one, an address to a lover) *unto me; he shall lie all night* (the secure peaceful rest of one living close to the Lord, to lodge, to tarry, to stay overnight)

betwixt (between two things, in the midst) *my breasts* (depictions of beauty, tender loving care, sustain newborn).

A container of myrrh. Myrrh is a type of death to self-soul. When God generates our spirit with His eternal life, that life is the light of God-it manifests darkness, that which is opposed to His Spirit. When our spirit is awake, it convicts everything we think, say, feel, every attitude and action that is not like His Spirit. As God's light penetrates the darkness, if the light is retained, held onto-it displaces the darkness, it removes the darkness.

Our soul goes through a transformation like a butterfly in a cocoon. The worm in the cocoon dies and breaks out of the shell a butterfly-resurrection life. Before it use to crawl, but now it lives in a different realm-it can fly. To travel through the air using wings or an engine. The air refers to the spirit realm-we walk in the spirit.

The circumcision of the heart is the work of the Holy Spirit, through the word living in our heart. The word is a two edge sword dividing the spirit and the soul. The word alive in our spirit exposes the spirit contrary to the word in the soul and cuts it off. Words, thinking, attitudes, feelings are all things of the spirit. There are in actuality only two spirits, the spirit which proceeds from God, and the spirit that opposes God. As God perfects our soul through His Spirit joined to our spirit, our soul begins to manifest or magnify, glorify God- this is the fruit of the spirit in our life. The fruit of God's spirit-joined to our Spirit energizes our soul producing his nature. Fruit is what is produced naturally, we begin to naturally Glorify God in what we are thinking, feeling and doing. This is God's love growing in our heart. The production of fruit is a process. And apple seed producing a tree, producing an apple that others can eat does not happen overnight, in the natural. In the Spirit, fruit will begin to be produced quickly, even overnight.

He (Jesus-the word) shall lie all night in the midst of my breasts- that which produces milk-fruit of the spirit to drink. As we grow in the Lord we begin to meditate upon the Word day and night. We begin to think God's thoughts after Him-God directing inspiring our thinking-this is called revelation knowledge, we come into the mind of Christ, we grow in the intimate knowledge of God. Our thoughts governed by the Spirit- the flow of the spirit in our thoughts produces the fruit of the Spirit. The fruit of the spirit is the salvation of the soul, its restoration into wholeness. It is the Holy obsession.

The outward law of God gives the knowledge of sin. Sin is a power-a thinking that produces a bent or tendency which becomes set or fixed. We were once alive apart from the law, but when knowledge of the law came, sin came alive and produced death. The glory of Gods law-the beauty of his character that it reveals, causes us to become aware of desires and thinking and behavior patterns that are opposed to His spirit. Because our spirit is alive through contact with His Spirit-his Spirit continually convicts us or convinces us of the foolishness and insanity of this life force. Sin then becomes exceedingly sinful, because we begin to realize the power these things have over us. Our will becomes so weakened that in one sense we lose the power of choice, because we practice the things our spirit does not want to because of the emptiness in our heart or the obsession that is not heavenly that is in our heart. As our focus is stayed more and more on the Spirit of the Lord, the intensity of that which is opposed to the spirit is reduced to inactivity. Through the transformation process we need to remember-my beloved desires to rest through this time of darkness in our heart until the day breaks and these shadows pass away.

We receive revelation of Jesus' love and provision for us in going to the cross. Myrrh is an aromatic gum resin produced by various trees and shrubs in India, Arabia, and East Africa. It was very expensive and used in making perfume. It was used in the making of the holy

anointing oil to- burn incense (Ex 30:23) and in preparing a body for a funeral (Jn. 19:39-40). It has a bitter taste. The three wise kings brought myrrh to Jesus' birth as a prophetic symbol of His death (Mt. 2:11). On the cross, Jesus was offered myrrh (Mk. 15:23). It speaks of Jesus' death (Ps 45:8). Myrrh speaks of the fragrant yet bitter reality of embracing death to our fleshly ways. Esther's beauty preparations included bathing in myrrh for six months, a dying to self so that His Spirit can come forth. Some wealthy women in the ancient world went to bed with a bundle or large necklace of myrrh to provide fragrance through the night. It is a type of taking up the cross, the death, burial and resurrection of our soul into the life of God.

¹⁴*My beloved* (loved one, lover) *is unto me as a cluster* (a group of henna blossoms) *of camphire* (ransom-the price demanded in order to redeem or to rescue someone) *in the vineyards* (where wine is produced) *of Engedi*.

My beloved is unto me-first relational term or inheritance statement of four throughout the song, we start out being self-centered. Our primary focus is our own happiness. We are also very self-conscious (how we and others view us). Jesus has revealed himself to us and it is the greatest thing that has ever happened to us. We have a very personal relationship with him. We have tasted of our inheritance-he is mine. Our focus is on what Jesus is to us. Our focus is basically upon our spiritual experience, the spiritual pleasure that we have encountered-(Our own spiritual enjoyment).
My beloved is unto me! We love God because He first loved us.

He becomes to us a cluster of camphire. A cluster of ransom. God loves us so much, that he suffered the consequences of everything wrong we did outside of Him. He legally removed everything that could separate us from Him, in reality the only thing that can separate us from him is not coming to Him.

Everything God calls us to be and to do-He becomes to us-a cluster- to gather something into or form a small group. The revelation of the Word of God is like a puzzle, each piece fits together-but it is in reality a revelation of a person-who is love. Every doctrine of the bible is what God becomes to us. He becomes our love, our wisdom, our sanctification-everything we need he becomes to us. If we need hope, he becomes our hope. If we need faith, he becomes our faith. What he requires of us-He becomes to us.

A cluster of camphire-is a revelation of Jesus' beauty and fragrance. Jesus is to us as a cluster of beautiful and fragrant henna flowers in full bloom. A henna is a shrub or a small tree with fragrant flowers. Jesus is as a cluster of henna flowers to us as he reveals himself to our heart. Jesus' commandments are not burdensome and His yoke is easy as we understand Him in truth. His Spirit imparts to us the ability to keep his commandment, which imparts His Eternal life to our soul. It is the spirit of His law, His nature written on our heart. His personality is many colors, he has many faces. He reveals himself to us in many ways. He becomes to us what He reveals himself to be. He is our provision, what we need is what he becomes to us. This emphasizes the diversity and abundance of the beauty He possesses. He is coming to be glorified in us. The vineyards of En Gediwere are well known for their abundant fragrance. Camphire means ransom; he paid the price to redeem us out of ourselves into Him. We are the vineyard where the wine of His Spirit is produced.

¹⁵*Behold* (call to realize, expresses strong feelings of surprise, hope, expectation, certainty), *thou art fair* (beautiful), *my love* (lover); *behold* (certainty), *thou art fair* (beautiful); *thou hast doves' eyes*.

This is a revelation of God's love for us and our beauty to Him. We begin to see our beauty to him, and his affection for us. We are the one He calls My Love. We present ourselves to him with confidence in his

love for us even in our immaturity. This foundational truth enables us to receive more truth about our beauty to Him. When we receive this revelation of God's love for us even in our weakness, it touches our emotions and we begin to feel truly loved and beautiful in the grace of a beautiful God, and it exhilarates (makes us feel happy, excited, and vigorous and alive) our heart. The revelation of how beautiful we are in God's eyes causes us to grow spiritually, our confession is because of Jesus, I am beautiful to God, even in my weakness. The more we feel loved by God and beautiful in His sight, the more pleasure we will have in our walk with God. To have dove's eyes is to see with God's eyes.

¹⁶*Behold* (certainty), *thou art fair* (beautiful), *my beloved* (loved one, my lover), *yea, pleasant* (having a right spirit, a joy to be around, right attitudes): *also our bed* (a place of true love and pleasure) *is green* (flourishing, full of life).

This is our response to the revelation of God's love for us. We begin to see that God is beautiful. That fellowship with His Spirit is a beautiful thing. God has a perfect Spirit, we take on the same spirit as we fellowship with Him. Experiencing His Spirit is a joy; he is a joy to be around. Our bed is that secret place of intimacy with Him, when we are in tune with His Spirit, where we have a conscious contact with Him. It is in this place of intimacy with Him that we bear His fruit. The fruit of the Spirit is manifested when we are in bed with Him, the beauty room where everything looks beautiful-His leadership in our life. This is a place of abiding in Him, of rest and confidence. This is the place of abiding in His love. The bed is green; it is not a desert place. This is the place where we are fed. It is the rest of forgiveness and the rest of intimacy. This bed is a place of deep union with Him.

¹⁷*The beams* (expensive wood, prized for its beauty) *of our house* (dwelling, temple, palace, family) *are cedar, and our rafters* (mail supporting) *of fir* (pine, juniper).

We are part of a house that God is building, it is our house, where our spirit fellowships with His. The beams of the house are made of cedar, and the rafters were of fir. Beams and rafters provide the structure for a house. It is the restructuring of our live. The bones that God has to break, he heals-that the structure of our life might be whole. The structures of a house are hidden. This is the inner working of the Spirit in our lives. Cedar and fir were the most permanent, expensive, beautiful and fragrant building material made of wood in Solomon's day. Cedar and fir trees were used in building the Temple, so that its structures would not decay. The work that God is doing in our spirit and soul will never decay; it is an eternal work which we endure forever. Our dwelling with the Lord is becoming strong and durable. The Spirit of God longs for us to be His eternal companion. We choose voluntarily to be equally yoked to Him. We are the prize or the reward He eternally longs for. Jesus died for us to possess our affections. He supernaturally imparts the ability to feel His love for us and have it reflect back to Him.

2:1 (yes I Am) *am the rose of Sharon* (it was fertile), *and the lily of the valleys* (it was a low land).

We are pictured as a beautiful rose. The rose is chosen for its beauty and fragrance as the chief of flowers. A lily speaks of purity. The valley speaks of the low and dark places in this world, and in our life. We are immature and our emotions are not yet balanced. We begin to live in purity in the midst of the dark valley of this fallen world. We begin to see our primary life purpose and identity is in being Jesus' inheritance. We begin to find our identity and success in life, in being desired by God and loving Him back. We begin to see that our primary purpose in life is found in seeking to love and fully obey Him. In loving Him and obeying Him we bring Him great joy and pleasure in the midst of the darkness of this world. We are the reward of His sufferings. The rose has to do with love (desire) and the lily with obedience (ability to

walk out, power). We are identified as the rose and the lily. Our love and obedience arise as a fragrance that intoxicates Jesus' heart. Our primary identity is not what we do with our hands but what we pursue with our hearts. Seeing that we are His rose and lily breaks a sense of purposelessness, failure and inferiority. We begin to measure our success in context to how much we grow in our intimacy with God by loving and obeying Him. The Lord begins to reveal to us the magnificence, the honor and privilege of being enabled to love Him and how this moves Him and is what matters to His heart. We begin to come into agreement with God's ideal of success. As worship begins to ascend from our heart to His, our life has meaning and we begin to experience the true meaning of success. Our lives become simplified, so that we are not led astray from the purity of our devotion-the focus of our life is to love Him.

²*As the lily among thorns* (despised), *so* (conveys quality) *is my love* (lover) *among* (in the midst of) *the daughters* (women, churches).

We are a lily among thorns. As we respond to the call to love the Lord with all our heart, a fragrance arises from our hearts to the Lord. The bride has a unique quality as she comes forth, it is the removal of the thorns-the other loves-the idols that are choking-the rest of the church.

³*As the apple tree* (refreshing, pleasant, good smell) *among the trees of the wood* (forest, woods, honeycomb, an item eaten), *so* (general agreement) *is my beloved* (loved one, lover) *among* (in the midst) *the sons* (descendant, disciple).

We begin to see that only Jesus can satisfy our heart. Only our awareness of the Presence of God can refresh our spirit at the highest level. We need the revelation of Jesus as the apple tree. The apple tree is a type of that which refreshes. When we receive the revelation of

Jesus as the apple tree-as the primary source that satisfies our heart, then we will begin to seek him with all our heart. The one tree that satisfies more than any other (the tree of life) we will seek first our satisfaction in Him, all the other pleasures are secondary.

A tree is a type of a person, as we come into intimate love with our Lord-our husband, then we will no longer look to men-leaders, but will begin to look to him-to his Spirit to teach us, and the Christ in one another. We no longer glorify individuals, but begin to see Jesus in them.

I sat down (sit, dwell, inhabit, endure, to stay) *under his shadow* (protection, shade, refuge) *with great delight* (to take pleasure in, desire intensely-passionately), *and his fruit* (what is naturally produced) *was sweet* (taste like honey, pleasantness, agreeableness) *to my taste* (mouth, sensation, ability to discern).

As we are in intimate communion with Him, we don't want to leave his Presence; our senses are heightened to discern that which is good. One thing is needed-to sit at His feet, to hear His voice, to enter into oneness with Him. We partake of His nature; we become what we eat-on Him we shall feast.

It is in His presence that we are refreshed; the greatest pleasure that our spirit and soul will ever experience is to feed upon His nature and feel His presence. It is as we abide under His shadow that we are protected from the heat of a fallen age. We are in the ending of one age and the beginning of another. As the pressure of a dying age increase we have the privilege-to partake of His sweetness-it is in reach. While the world is falling apart we look up for our redemption draweth nigh-excitement in the midst of turmoil.

We must enjoy our relationship with the Lord if we are to mature consistently. We can persevere through great difficulty if we find delight in His presence.

⁴*He brought* (to arrive) *me to the banqueting* (wine) *house* (dwelling, temple, palace), *and his banner* (flag, standard, to identify, the attitude and intent of a lover) *over* (upon, in front of) *me was love* (powerful intimate love, forming a covenant, loyalty, affections and faithfulness).

The banqueting house is the house of love, where we celebrate His love for us and our love for Him. It is the wedding table. His banner, his standard over us is love. The banner is that which identifies us. In the ancient world, an army would march in battalions under a specific flag or banner. Each unit had their own banner that was meant to clearly identify them. The banner or flag over our life that identifies who we are and where we are going in our life is Jesus' good leadership (wise, loving and powerful) that leads us to grow in love and in our identity as His inheritance (Bride). His leadership over us always leads us in way which reveals His love for us as well as imparting His love for us.

It is in His presence, that we experience his conviction, His wisdom, and the jealousy of His love that removes everything that hinders our love for Him.

⁵*Stay* (supporting, sustaining) *me with flagons* (raisin cakes, special luxurious gift to celebrate, a food desired for its energizing qualities), *comfort* (refresh, reinvigorate, restore a person who is weak and faint, to spread out, lying down, make oneself at home, rest, permanent inhabitant) *me with apples* (refreshing fruit): *for* (because) *I am sick* (weak) *of love* (powerful intimate love).

We begin to cry out for greater encounters with God. Our experience in the wine-house (the pouring out of His Spirit upon us awakens even a greater desire in us to go deeper into God. We begin to become Love sick-(thinking only about the person you love, unable to think about anything except the person who you love). We desire to be sustained with and refreshed with deeper revelation of His Word, and more of His Presence in our lives. The apples refer to the refreshing of His Spirit. The raisins speak of the ministry of the Spirit since they are dried grapes. Grapes symbolically point to the wine of the Spirit.

Being lovesick involves painful feelings of love and longing for more of God's presence in our life. We are extremely grateful for the measure of His Spirit we have attained, yet dissatisfied until we are filled with all the fullness of God. It is this deep longing that moves us to do what is necessary to have more of God in our lives.

When we come into love-sickness we can never go back, but desire to walk in all that God has for us. This is a godly mourning for more of God in our life.

⁶*His left hand is under* (a position underneath, in place of) *my head* (leader), *and his right hand* (God swears and delivers by His right hand, authority) *doth embrace* (show affection, acquire, give birth) *me*.

The *left hand of God* speaks of the activity of God that we cannot see. It is under the head therefore, it is out of view. The Lord does many things for us that we do not see. He withholds and releases many things to bless, provide and protect us. He spares us from troubles that we are not ever aware of in this age.

The *right hand of God* speaks of the visible or discernable activity of God. This speaks of the manifest presence of God that can be felt and discerned. The Spirit of God coming upon us gives birth to many

things in our lives. It is in this embrace, this intimacy, where the Spirit is manifest through us.

⁷*I charge* (to cause to take an oath) *you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes* (beauty, glory, gazelle, spread of a runner), *and* (or) *by the hinds* (female deer, swiftness) *of the field* (pastureland, open field, a place opposite the tent of meeting), *that ye stir not up* (1-when-condition 2-awaken, motivate) (same phrase-repeated twice-that ye stir not up), *nor* (when-condition) *awake* (awaken, motivate) *my love* (powerful intimate love), *till he please* (to be pleased).

It is when we hunger and thirst for His Spirit that we are filled with greater measures of His Spirit, as we go through this season in our life, we are not to be disturbed. Those who have not yet entered into this love sickness do not understand and will distract us. The Spirit tells those who are insensitive to the ways of the Spirit to not disturb the Bride from this particular season of her life.

By the gazelles or the does” speaks of the importance of gentleness and sensitivity in relating to us in this season of our life. A gazelle or doe has a sensitive nature and can be easily startled. Many are easily distracted from the Word. We must have sensitivity in relating to others in different seasons. It is in this begging season of coming into a walk with the Lord, that we learn how to consistently enter His Presence, so that we can have the motivation and strength for the journey ahead.

This is the laying of the foundation in our life. We experience the joy there is in a relationship with God, only He can satisfy our inner need of fulfillment- it is foolish to pursue something else. He desires an intimate relationship with us, and is extremely attracted to us even in our darkness and weakness. He will keep pursuing us until he has our

whole heart. The supreme cry of our heart must be-Draw me and we will run after you-this must become the prayer of our heart.