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## The Chapters of Song of Solomon

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# Song of Songs

## SECTION OUTLINE ONE (SONG OF SOLOMON 1-8)

A description is given of the events preceding the wedding, the events accompanying the wedding, and the events following the wedding.

### I. THE EVENTS PRECEDING THE WEDDING (1:1-3:5)

- A. "You light up my life" (1:1-4a, 5-7, 12-14, 16-17, 2:1, 3-13, 16-17, 3:1-5): The bride speaks to the groom, Solomon.
  - 1. Your love is sweeter than wine (1:2).
  - 2. How pleasing is your name (1:3).
  - 3. I am darkened by the sun but beautiful (1:5-6).
  - 4. Where do you graze your flocks, O my love (1:7)?
  - 5. I desire to hold you in my bosom (1:12-14; 2:4-7).
  - 6. I will be to you as a rose of Sharon, the lily of the valley (2:1).
  - 7. You will be to me as an apple tree (2:3).
  - 8. I hear you coming for me (2:8-13, 16-17).
  - 9. I dreamed that I searched for you in the streets of the city (3:1-5).
- B. "You light up my life" (1:8-11, 15): The groom speaks to the bride.
  - 1. You are like a lovely filly (1:9).
  - 2. How lovely are your cheeks and neck (1:10).
  - 3. Your eyes are soft like doves (1:15).
- C. "They light up each other's life" (1:4b, 2:15): The young women of Jerusalem speak to the couple.
  - 1. We rejoice and delight in you (1:4b).
  - 2. Guard the vineyard of your love (2:15).

### II. THE EVENTS ACCOMPANYING THE WEDDING (3:6-5:1)

- A. The wedding day (3:6-11)
  - 1. The coming of King Solomon (3:6): Solomon is seen sweeping in from the deserts like a cloud of smoke, coming for his bride.
  - 2. The carriage of King Solomon (3:7-10)
    - a. The soldiers (3:7-8): Solomon's carriage is guarded by 60 of Israel's strongest and most experienced warriors.
    - b. The splendor (3:9-10)
      - (1) Made from wood imported from Lebanon (3:9)
      - (2) Has silver posts and a golden canopy (3:10a)
      - (3) Is upholstered with purple (3:10b)
  - 3. The crown of King Solomon (3:11): The bride invites the daughters of Jerusalem to see and admire his crown, given him by his mother on the very day of his wedding.
- B. The wedding night (4:1-5:1)
  - 1. As spoken by the husband to his wife (4:1-15; 5:1a): He praises her as follows:
    - a. Her eyes are like doves (4:1a).
    - b. Her hair is like a flock of goats (4:1b).
    - c. Her teeth are like shorn sheep (4:2).
    - d. Her lips are like a scarlet ribbon (4:3a).
    - e. Her cheeks are like the halves of a pomegranate (4:3b).
    - f. Her neck is like the tower of David (4:4).
    - g. Her breasts are like twin fawns of a gazelle (4:5).
    - h. Her love is much better than wine (4:10a).
    - i. Her perfume is more fragrant than the richest spices. Her virginity is his own private

garden, an enclosed spring, a sealed fountain, a lovely orchard holding precious fruit (4:10b-15; 5:1a).

2. As spoken by the wife to her husband (4:16): She urges him to take his fill of love.
3. As spoken by the young women of Jerusalem to both (5:1b): "Eat and drink deeply of this love!"

### III. THE EVENTS FOLLOWING THE WEDDING (5:2-8:14)

- A. In regard to the wife (5:2-8, 10-16; 7:10-8:4, 6-7, 10-14)
  1. Her dream (5:2-8)
    - a. The sin (5:2-4): In her dream she rebuffs her husband, causing him to walk away sadly.
    - b. The search (5:5-8): Regretting this, she searches for him in the city streets and is mistreated by the watchmen.
  2. Her desire (7:10-8:4)
    - a. To visit the countryside and spend the night in one of the fields (7:10-13)
    - b. To publicly demonstrate her love for him (8:1-4)
    - c. To offer herself totally to him (8:10-12, 14)
  3. Her description (5:10-16; 8:6-7)
    - a. She describes her lover (5:10-16).
    - b. She describes her love (8:6-7).
- B. In regard to the husband (6:4-12-13; 7:1-9; 8:5b, 13)
  1. He characterizes the beauty of his wife (6:4-7): Solomon speaks in glowing terms concerning his wife's hair, teeth, cheeks, etc.
  2. He contrasts the beauty of his wife (6:8-10): Her beauty far surpasses that of his 60 other wives, 80 concubines, and unnumbered virgins!
- C. In regard to the young women of Jerusalem (5:9; 6:1, 13a; 8:5a): They ask the wife several questions.
- D. In regard to the wife's brothers (8:8-9)
  1. The question (8:8): "What will happen to our little sister?"
  2. The answer (8:9): "We will help her to remain pure until she marries."