

“SONG OF SOLOMON”

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INTRODUCTION

A. AUTHOR and DATE:

1. Possible wrote by Solomon.
2. During his reign as King of Israel.

B. SUBJECT:

1. Love between man and a woman.
 2. Relationship as it should be. As God would have it to be.
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Suggested Explanations

A. SHEPHERD HYPOTHESIS:

1. Shulammite maiden.
2. Taken to be a part of the harem of Solomon.
3. But her undying love is for the Shepherd at home.
4. Book then is an effort on part of Solomon to win her love
5. The questions from the others in the harem as to why she would turn away from the king, and the kings court.
6. The Maiden's absolute love for her shepherd.

B. SOLOMON AND THE MAIDEN HYPOTHESIS:

1. Shulammite maiden.
2. Taken to be wife of Solomon.
3. Story of Solomon's love...and effort to win her and her love.
4. Then details her love for Solomon.
5. Women are the women of Jerusalem who stand as it were on side line and watch the courtship.

C. ALLEGORICAL INTERPRETATION:

1. Represents the love of God for Israel.
 2. Israel and maiden...response and love for God.
 3. Love is absolute and complete.
 4. Expanded farther to represent Christ and the church.
 5. Love of Christ for the church. "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". *While this is true it seems to be stretching the book too far.
 6. If you want to draw some comparisons of the Love of God for Israel, from this book....fine. And if you want to draw some lessons for the Love of Christ for the church (Eph. 5). That's fine too. The illustrations are great.
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SOME LESSONS

- A. IT IS UNIQUE in Holy Scripture in that it is the only book that deals solely with human love, and this it does incomparably.
 - 1. The importance of love, marriage and the home.
 - 2. God in His wisdom has included in the canon of Holy Scripture one whole book on this important matter which, in every generation, suffers tragic abuse.
 - 3. In its teaching, the Bible attempts to redeem a situation which has become woefully degraded.
 - B. THE DEDICATION AND faithfulness which the king and bride have for each other is the key to the basic message of the book.
 - 1. Marriages of our day are more often temporary, than long lasting, as they are intended to be.
 - 2. Marriages of this country as well as other countries are under sever attack.
 - 3. TV, and radio, the newspapers and magazines publicize and even applaud the sinful practice of premarital sex, adultery and homosexuality.
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Book Preserved Because ...

- A. It is the only book in Scripture that deals solely with human love, and does this incomparably.
 - B. It indicates the rightness and value of true love in all its aspects between man and woman.
 - C. God has given us one whole book that deals with this subject which:
 - 1. In every generation suffers tragic abuse.
 - 2. Look at the chaos in the world today in the areas of love, marriage and faithfulness.
 - D. The World has made a mockery of true love.
 - 1. Promotes premarital sex.
 - 2. Living together without marriage.
 - 3. Divorce on demand.
 - 4. Homosexual unions (calls them marriage).
 - E. The Book is a censure on lust, polygamy, and infidelity.
 - 1. It encourages a love which is exclusive and absorbing (4:12).
 - 2. It endorses the place of physical love within a **legitimate relationship!**
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*See J.W. Roberts article in FWCC Lectureship book on OT Books.