



# **Song of Solomon**



Perfection

<sup>12</sup> Let us go early to the vineyards  
to see if the vines have budded,  
if their blossoms have opened,  
and if the pomegranates are in bloom—  
there I will give you my love.

<sup>13</sup> The mandrakes send out their fragrance,  
and at our door is every delicacy,  
both new and old,  
that I have stored up for you, my beloved.

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:14**

<sup>1</sup> If only you were to me like a brother,  
who was nursed at my mother's breasts!

Then, if I found you outside,  
I would kiss you, and no one would despise me.

<sup>2</sup> I would lead you  
and bring you to my mother's house—  
she who has taught me.  
I would give you spiced wine to drink,  
the nectar of my pomegranates.

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:14**

<sup>3</sup> His left arm is under my head  
and his right arm embraces me.  
<sup>4</sup> Daughters of Jerusalem, I charge you:  
Do not arouse or awaken love  
until it so desires.

Friends

<sup>5</sup> Who is this coming up from the wilderness  
leaning on her beloved?

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:14**

She

Under the apple tree I roused you;  
there your mother conceived you,  
there she who was in labour gave you birth.

<sup>6</sup> Place me like a seal over your heart,  
like a seal on your arm  
for love is as strong as death,  
its jealousy unyielding as the grave.

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:14**

It burns like blazing fire,  
like a mighty flame.  
7 Many waters cannot quench love;  
rivers cannot sweep it away.  
If one were to give  
all the wealth of one's house for love,  
it would be utterly scorned.

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:14**

## Friends

<sup>8</sup> We have a little sister,  
and her breasts are not yet grown.  
What shall we do for our sister  
on the day she is spoken for?

<sup>9</sup> If she is a wall,  
we will build towers of silver on her.  
If she is a door,  
we will enclose her with panels of cedar.

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:14**

She

<sup>10</sup> I am a wall,

and my breasts are like towers.

Thus I have become in his eyes  
like one bringing contentment.

<sup>11</sup> Solomon had a vineyard in Baal Hamon;  
he let out his vineyard to tenants.

Each was to bring for its fruit  
a thousand shekels of silver.

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:14**

But my own vineyard is mine to give;  
the thousand shekels are for you, Solomon,  
and two hundred are for those who tend its fruit.

He

<sup>13</sup> You who dwell in the gardens  
with friends in attendance,  
let me hear your voice!

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:14**

She

<sup>14</sup> Come away, my beloved,  
and be like a gazelle  
or like a young stag  
on the spice-laden mountains.

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:14**

“It seems almost oxymoronic to believe that this new idealism has led to a new pessimism about marriage, but that is exactly what has happened... Today we are looking for someone who accepts us as we are and fulfills our desires, and this creates an unrealistic set of expectations that frustrates both the searchers and the searched for...”

“The Meaning of Marriage”

(Tim and Kathy Keller)

[The Bible's view of marriage involves] two flawed people coming together to create a space of stability, love, and consolation... But a marriage based not on self-denial but on self-fulfillment will require a low—or no—maintenance partner who meets your needs while making almost no claims on you. Simply put—today people are asking far too much in the marriage partner."

**"The Meaning of Marriage"**

(Tim and Kathy Keller)

We can fool ourselves into naively believing that our spouse is actually capable of perfection!

Only a perfect God can perfect  
imperfect people

There is no perfect marriage, but  
there is a Perfecter of marriage

And let us run with perseverance the race [or marriage] marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

**Hebrews 12:1b-2**

# **1) The Consistency of a Marriage**

(vs. 7:12-8:4)

<sup>12</sup> Let us go early to the vineyards  
to see if the vines have budded,  
if their blossoms have opened,  
and if the pomegranates are in bloom—  
there I will give you my love.

<sup>13</sup> The mandrakes send out their fragrance,  
and at our door is every delicacy,  
both new and old,  
that I have stored up for you, my beloved.

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:4**

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and bring you to my mother's house—  
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**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:4**

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until it so desires.

**Song of Solomon 7:12-8:4**

Song of Solomon is not only concerned about single and married people, it is concerned about the future of an entire community

<sup>26</sup> If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

**1 Corinthians 12:26**

Who are the students of your marriage and what are they learning from you and your spouse?

It's not about celebrating the Eastern or Western worldviews of marriage, it's about celebrating what the Bible celebrates about marriage

“They are romantic once again, but it’s a mature romance based on commitment, not hormones. At least one year after their marriage and honeymoon, they’re keeping the romantic fires burning between them.”

“The Bible from 30,000 Feet”  
(Skip Heitzig)

## **2) The Character of a Marriage**

(vs. 5-7)

Friends

5 Who is this coming up from the wilderness  
leaning on her beloved?

She

Under the apple tree I roused you;  
there your mother conceived you,  
there she who was in labour gave you birth.

**Song of Solomon 8:5-7**

<sup>6</sup> Place me like a seal over your heart,  
like a seal on your arm  
for love is as strong as death,  
its jealousy unyielding as the grave.

<sup>7</sup> Many waters cannot quench love;  
rivers cannot sweep it away.

If one were to give  
all the wealth of one's house for love,  
it would be utterly scorned.

**Song of Solomon 8:5-7**

“Song of Solomon 8:6-7 is the  
1 Corinthians 13:4-8 of the  
Old Testament.”

(Thabiti Anyabwile)

# **A) Love is Possessive**

Let nothing be assumed in marriage. Say it or do it so that they know it and feel it.

**B) Love is Permanent**

<sup>13</sup> And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

**1 Corinthians 13:13**

The grave is the official end point  
of marriage; not divorce

## **C) Love is Passionate**

May the passionate-love you have  
for one another continue to burn  
through every stage of your life –  
as young adults, as adults or as  
parents, as mature adults or as  
grandparents

**D) Love is Persevering**

23 Some went out on the sea in ships; they were merchants on the mighty waters. 24 They saw the works of the LORD, his wonderful deeds in the deep. 25 For he spoke and stirred up a tempest that lifted high the waves. 26 They mounted up to the heavens and went down to the depths; in their peril their courage melted away.

**Psalm 107:23-31**

27 They reeled and staggered like drunkards;  
they were at their wits' end. 28 Then they cried  
out to the LORD in their trouble, and he brought  
them out of their distress. 29 He stilled the storm  
to a whisper; the waves of the sea were  
hushed. 30 They were glad when it grew calm,  
and he guided them to their desired haven.

**Psalm 107:23-31**

<sup>31</sup> Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind.

**Psalm 107:23-31**

**E) Love is Priceless**

You did not choose your spouse  
without assessing his or her  
character

# **3) The Contentment of a Marriage**

(vs. 8-14)

## Friends

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and her breasts are not yet grown.  
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on the day she is spoken for?

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**Song of Solomon 8:8-14**

She

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on the spice-laden mountains.

**Song of Solomon 8:8-14**

Those who are content never  
compare their marriage to any  
other relationship from the past or  
in the present

4 I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards.

**Ecclesiastes 2:4**

<sup>6</sup> But godliness with contentment is great gain. <sup>7</sup> For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.

**1 Timothy 6:6-7**

I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. <sup>13</sup> I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.

**Philippians 4:12b-13**



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