**Reflections:**

1. **Preparing for the Wedding feast**
2. **At the Wedding banquet**
3. **In the Bridal chambers (Shulamite)**
4. **Courtship & the pain of separation**
5. **The Wedding Procession (Shulamite)**
6. **The Wedding Night (The Beloved)**
7. **The Dream of Rejecting the Bridegroom**
8. **The Return of the King**
9. **The Dance of the Two Camps**
10. **The Stability of the Beloved's Love**
11. **Journey Out of the Wilderness**
12. **The Family Gathering & the Vineyard**

*\*The 10th Reflection Continues and a Third Warning in the Same Area.*

*\*Song of Solomon 8:1-4*

***The Shulamite***

*1 Oh, that you were like my brother,*

*Who nursed at my mother’s breasts!*

*If I should find you outside,*

*I would kiss you;*

*I would not be despised.*

*2 I would lead you and bring you*

*Into the house of my mother,*

*She who used to instruct me.*

*I would cause you to drink of spiced wine,*

*Of the juice of my pomegranate.*

***To the Daughters of Jerusalem***

*3 His left hand is under my head,*

*And his right hand embraces me.*

*4 I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem,*

*Do not stir up nor awaken love*

*Until it pleases.*

Insights V:1-2 **The Shulamite desired to show public affection**.

**Public affection wasn’t permissible except in certain family relations.**

**As a Bride, the desire is to grow in her ability to please her husband.**

Insights V:2-3 **The third time we see this embrace and the charge to the younger women.**

1. **A hug** is still a compelling part of intimacy.
2. **\*V:4 Sexual passion** should not be aroused where it cannot or should not be fulfilled.
3. **Song of Song 2:7 Is written In the context of marriage.**
4. **Song of Song 3:5 Is written in the context of courtship.**
5. **Song of Song 8:4 Until in its proper place** and it pleases either or both husband and wife.
6. **The three above verses imply the profound truth** about the differences between love and desire.

**The deception** that desire is love. “I love you but am not in love with you.” It is a statement communicating that I care about you, but I no longer desire you.

**The daughters of Jerusalem** were learning not to ignite desire because it doesn’t always lead to love.

**The truth** is love is more profound and longer-lasting than desire. Desire is something that must be controlled.

*\*The 11th Reflection: Out of the Wilderness & The 12th The Family Gathering*

\*Song of Solomon 8: 5-9

***Unknown Voice***

*5 Who is this coming up from the wilderness,*

*Leaning upon her beloved?*

*I awakened you under the apple tree.*

*There your mother brought you forth;*

*There she who bore you brought you forth.*

***The Shulamite to Her Beloved***

*6 Set me as a seal upon your heart,*

*As a seal upon your arm;*

*For love is as strong as death,*

*Jealousy as cruel as the grave;*

*Its flames are flames of fire,*

*A most vehement flame.*

*7 Many waters cannot quench love,*

*Nor can the floods drown it.*

*If a man would give for love*

*All the wealth of his house,*

*It would be utterly despised.*

***The Shulamite’s Brothers***

*8 We have a little sister,*

*And she has no breasts.*

*What shall we do for our sister*

*In the day when she is spoken for?*

*9 If she is a wall,*

*We will build upon her*

*A battlement of silver;*

*And if she is a door,*

*We will enclose her*

*With boards of cedar.*

Insight V:5 **Who is this question? It comes up again** as a person is coming up from the wilderness.

Song of song 3:6 **Like** a pillar of smoke that came out of the wilderness is pointing to God’s presence.

**The wilderness is symbolic and literal—a** place of provision and a time of testing. God is in both situations.

Insights V:6-7 **The Value of Love from the Bridegroom for the Bride.**

**We are sealed** with God’s love. We must learn not to let anything quench that love for God or our spouse.

**Love (Salvation) cannot be purchased,** and the attempts to buy it are met with scorn.

Insights V:8-9 **Who will be the wall (protection)** to this kind of love (Salvation)?

**If the bride is like a door, she loses** her value. She must always point to the Bridegroom.

**If she takes on the role of a door,** they will close it off with boards of cedar.

*The 12th Reflection: The Gathering at the Vineyard*

Song of Solomon 8:10-14

***The Shulamite to her brothers***

*10 I am a wall,*

*And my breasts like towers;*

*Then I became in his eyes*

*As one who found peace.*

*11 Solomon had a vineyard at Baal Hamon;*

*He leased the vineyard to keepers;*

*Everyone was to bring for its fruit*

*A thousand silver coins.*

***To Solomon***

*12 My own vineyard is before me.*

*You, O Solomon, may have a thousand,*

*And those who tend its fruit two hundred.*

***The Beloved***

*13 You who dwell in the gardens,*

*The companions listen for your voice—*

*Let me hear it!*

***The Shulamite***

*14 Make haste, my beloved,*

*And be like a gazelle*

*Or a young stag*

*On the mountains of spices.*

Insights to V:10 **The bride declares her value** as a protector because of the peace she found in the Bridegroom.

**The Hebrew word for wall** is a firm fortress standing against every assault.

**Her breast-like towers** are saying her honor is strong. The Bride realizes her value in the Savior’s eyes.

**As the bride becomes like a tower/standard,** she will find peace in her Savior’s eyes.

Insights to V:11-12 **The King’s vineyards** He leased some this may imply Israel. The Bride’s Vineyard could be a futuristic look at the Church. This is an Eschatological allegory.

Insights to V:13-14**: For the married, whispering is the sign** **of tenderness and love**.

Allegory: **Are you ready to hear the bridegroom’s voice?** The Bride is saying make haste, my beloved, and we are ready.