
The greatest story ever told...

Ask 100 people what the greatest story ever told could be. You will probably get 100 different answers. But the Bible answers that question for us. The Bible's full name for this book: *The Song of Songs, which is Solomon's*. Think about that for a second: the song of all songs... the greatest song... the greatest story of them all. But often this book remains shrouded mystery and cryptic language for the few who read it, waiting for the brave to crack its imagery and discover the secrets of this story. Solomon penned the words, "It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter" (Pr 25:2). And so this mysterious book waits for those with the heart of a king to unlock the wisdom and passion it possesses.

Song of Solomon has a unique voice among all the other books of the Bible. It is truly one of a kind. Whereas you can find

similarities among the gospels or in Paul's letters or in the books of law or the prophets, the Song of Songs is a markedly unique, intimate expression of God's love romance with mankind. Many glaze over it, assuming it is just a love story between Solomon and some unknown woman. But when you look closer, you realize that this is actually not a story that literally happened between two people; rather it is an allegory, a deep spiritual metaphor for the love romance between us and our father.

GOD'S MESSAGE TO THE ULTIMATE "LADIES MAN"

Many men have a hard time "getting into" Song of Songs. But we have to remember, this is a revelation that God gave to Solomon – man-to-man. While its lessons are trans-gender and may seem like a romance novel that women would better relate to, we can't forget that the original intended recipient of this book was a man – and it contains a message intended to awaken the heart of a man to Godly passions (It can do the same for a woman's heart also).

Why did God choose this topic for Solomon? Remember that God always meets us where we are – He gives us something we can relate to that will stir up that part of our soul that is falling

for a worldly counterfeit of what only God can give us. Solomon understood something of romance, something of wooing something of passion. After all, he courted more than a thousand women. He knew the language that would turn and excite a heartbeat. In modern terms, Solomon was a player. If you look at the number of women he wooed, he could have worked “his game” on a different woman every day for YEARS without ever going on a second “date” with the same girl. It was his fascination with women and romance that led him AWAY from God. Little did he know that God was working to woo him back. Therefore God spoke in terms that he could relate to in order to bring him back to the ONE TRUE intimacy that would fill his soul and teach him where his true power and identity came from.

Solomon had one thing right: he was designed to be a lover... designed for passion. He just had the object of that love confused and kept throwing it away on worldly lusts and passions. He was designed to love God with all his heart, soul, mind and strength. He was created for intimacy... real intimacy with the One source of ALL love, ALL passion. And whereas the connection between a man and a woman that is made through physical union is a small foreshadowing of what we can have with God (Eph. 5:31,32), each intimate encounter only served to echo in his soul that there must be more than this earthly romance.

Yes, Song of Songs is more than a simple romance. It is the path to intimacy with God and the awakening of the heart to life's greatest passions that rest in the heart of every believer according to their unique purpose and calling. Song of Songs is the story of my relationship with God and the story of your relationship with God. And while there is an element of mystery in its language and imagery, it is far less mysterious than the unraveling of the deep issues of one's own soul. Indeed, everyone can relate to its deep truths once they are made evident.

As we counsel many men who struggle with the burden of Solomon, a heart that can't break the grip of women and lust, over and over we see these issues masking a true, deep heart need for intimacy, for love and to love themselves, feelings of being lost in life, to know who they are and why they are on this earth, and a deep need to feel masculine, powerful and to face and tame the inner man.

All real warfare, the will and power to fight comes from the heart. Awaken the heart and awaken the warrior within. This story was how God reached Solomon. This path also holds a key to how we can also come awake.

BIRTHING THE HEART OF A WARRIOR

We live in a time when Christian men have lost both the power and the passion to fight for what they believe in. For as long as I can remember, the way we were taught to deal with sin and lust was to flee. We were taught to run from places of temptation, hide our eyes when they were to wander and build a wall of protection around us with a cyber filter. All of this is good and Biblical. But this approach to dealing with sin and temptation is limited – it has made us good at fleeing, but weak at fighting. There is a time to flee and there is also a time and place to fight. And as lust fights its way into every corner of our culture and every fabric of society, we are running out of safe places to which we can flee... and when we are backed into a corner where we come face-to-face with our desires and temptations, we forget what we were fleeing from and fighting for in the first place.

Tragically, most Christians feel more passion for their temptations than they do for what they are really put on earth to do. So we don't fight because we don't know what we are fighting for. The heart of a warrior isn't born of blood and sweat as many movies would depict. "Pick your battles," some say. That is a polite way of saying, "I don't care enough about this

thing to fight or expend energy over it.” Indeed, no one will fight a battle they don’t feel passionately about. **Your commitment level can never be higher than your love level.** And the deeper you love something, the more you will sacrifice and fight for it.

Therefore, to fight for what we want at a higher level, the heart must be awakened to love at a deeper level. Only when a man’s passion for God and a full life outstrips his passion for pleasure, will the lesser passion lose its temptation and power over him. It cannot be any other way. To attempt to press out of sin without pressing into God will only carry you until your limited physical will and fleshly endurance collapse.

And so the mightiest man is not born of willpower, sweat, blood and determination; but rather at the foot of the cross being uplifted and empowered through grace by the One True Mighty Man, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Are you ready to live with purpose? Are you hungry to fight for the life, destiny and calling that your heart yearns for? Then prepare your heart to come awake to mighty passion and experience the Warrior’s Romance.