

Homework for Week 2

Read through the Song of Songs 2:1-17 and answer the following questions.

1. Where does the conversation between the Shulamith and the Beloved seem to be taking place in vs. 1-3?

2. What does the Beloved compare the Shulamith to in v. 2?

3. What does the Shulamith compare her Beloved to in v. 3?

4. Where does the Beloved bring the Shulamith in v. 4?

5. How does the Shulamith describe her condition to the Daughters of Jerusalem in v. 5?

6. What does the Beloved speak to the Shulamith in v. 10?

7. List the reasons why from vs. 10-13 to your answer from question #6:

- *the winter is past*
- *the rain is over and gone*
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Count the number of reasons and write the number here: _____

8. What does the Beloved desire of the Shulamith in v. 14?

Background reading:

This week we are going to look closely at some of the prophetic end time circumstances alluded to in Song of Songs 2. We will need to familiarize ourselves with Jesus' teaching on the signs of the times and the end of the age in **Luke 21** and with God's plan for Israel and for the church in **Romans 9-11**. Please read these chapters and answer the questions below:

READ: Luke 21

1. What are the two things Jesus asked his disciples to look at in v. 29?
2. Write out Jesus' exact words in v. 30 below:
3. What do you know "when you see these things happening" in v. 31?
4. Looking at vs. 34-35, what "will come unexpectedly, for it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth"?
5. Where was Jesus when he was teaching this lesson to his disciples (v. 37)?

READ: Romans 9-11

6. According to Paul, why has Israel not attained to the law of righteousness? (see Romans 9:32).
7. Why has salvation come to the Gentiles (see Romans 11:11)?

8. Write out Romans 11:12 below:

9. What does Paul say in Romans 11:15 Israel's "being cast away" is? What about "their acceptance"?

10. What does Paul want us to know so that we are not "ignorant of this mystery" and perhaps "wise in our own opinion" from Romans 11:25?

11. What will happen to Israel according to Romans 11:26-27?

12. Read Romans 11:28-29. What does Paul say about the gifts and calling of God?

Personal Reflection: What stood out to you the most during your homework this week?

WEEK TWO: SONG OF SONGS 2

Chapter Theme: The Coming of the King

*My beloved is mine, and I am his.
He feeds his flock among the lilies.*

-Song of Songs 2:16

People featured in the chapter:

- The Beloved
- The Shulamith
- The Daughters of Jerusalem
- The Brothers

Places mentioned in the chapter:

- The banqueting house (2:4)

(2:1) We pick up on our story of the Beloved and the Shulamith where we left off at chapter 1—Now we see Shulamith's increasing understanding of what she means to her Beloved.

The Shulamith as a testimony of those who seek the Lord

Hebrew: *susa* "filly" (1:9) to *shushan* "lily" (tubular-shaped flower)

The trumpet announcing the coming of the King

Hebrews 11:6—But without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Isaiah 65:10—Sharon shall be a fold of flocks,
And the Valley of Achor [lit. *trouble*] a place for herds to lie down,
For My people who have sought Me.

Psalms 45:1-5—To the Chief Musician. Set to "The Lilies." A Contemplation of the sons of Korah. A Song of Love.

My heart is overflowing with a good theme;
I recite my composition concerning the King;
My tongue *is* the pen of a ready writer.
You are fairer than the sons of men;
Grace is poured upon Your lips;
Therefore God has blessed You forever.
Gird Your sword upon *Your* thigh, O Mighty One,
With Your glory and Your majesty.
And in Your majesty ride prosperously because of truth,
humility, *and* righteousness;
And Your right hand shall teach You awesome things.
Your arrows *are* sharp in the heart of the King's enemies;
The peoples fall under You.

(2:2-3) The Shulamith's willingness to surrender to God's plan for her life

The Beloved's word that shades her under the heat of the anger of her mother's sons and sustains her until he comes.

Luke 6:35-36—"But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful."

Proverbs 25:11—A word fitly spoken *is like* apples of gold
In settings of silver.

(2:4-7) At the banqueting house (lit. *the house of wine*), the Shulamith is a display of his love and a testimony to the Daughters of Jerusalem

The longing and security of love

Wisdom passed along to the Daughters of Jerusalem

From *Women of the Bible* (Spangler, 2007)—"[The Shulamith] is the only female voice that speaks directly and extensively to us in Scripture. Ruth's, Esther's, and Mary's voices, for instance, are all mediated through narration."

Ephesians 3:17-19—that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

1 Thessalonians 5:11—Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

1 Corinthians 13:4a (ESV)—Love is patient.

(2:8-13) The Beloved's arrival—The Shulamith announces, "Behold, he comes!"

The seven reasons why he says, "Come away!"

Hebrew: *sheba* "seven" comes from the Hebrew word: *shaba* "to swear"

The signs of the times

Luke 21:10-11—Then He said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be great earthquakes in various places, and famines and pestilences; and there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

Luke 21:25-28—"And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

Luke 21:29-33—**Then He spoke to them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. When they are already budding, you see and know for yourselves that summer is now near.** So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near. Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

1 Kings 4:25—And Judah and Israel dwelt safely, each man under his vine and his fig tree, from Dan as far as Beersheba, all the days of Solomon.

Proverbs 27:18—Whoever keeps the fig tree will eat its fruit;
So he who waits on his master will be honored.

(2:14) The Beloved's desire to hear the Shulamith's heart—the value of honest and transparent communication

Reflecting the glory of the Lord

Matthew 11:25-30—At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and *the one* to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him*. Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light."

(READ EXODUS 33:12-23)

Exodus 33:18-23—And he said, "Please, show me Your glory."

Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live." And the LORD said, "Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen."

(2:15) Foreshadowing the Brothers' understanding that the future success of their land lies in the Beloved and the Shulamith's relationship

Romans 9:22-26—*What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory, even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?*

As He says also in Hosea:

"I will call them My people, who were not My people,
And her beloved, who was not beloved."
"And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them,
'You *are* not My people,'
There they shall be called sons of the living God."

(READ JEREMIAH 33:14-18)

Jeremiah 33:23-26—Moreover the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying, "Have you not considered what these people have spoken, saying, 'The two families which the LORD has chosen, He has also cast them off'? Thus they have despised My people, as if they should no more be a nation before them. "Thus says the LORD: 'If My covenant *is* not with day and night, *and if* I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth, then I will cast away the descendants of Jacob and David My servant, so that I will not take *any* of his descendants *to be* rulers over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. For I will cause their captives to return, and will have mercy on them.' "

(2:16) The first of three statements (see 5:3 and 7:10) by the Shulamith declaring the security of their relationship and how it blesses the whole flock

John 10:14-16—I am the good shepherd; and I know My *sheep*, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock *and* one shepherd.

(2:17) The Shulamith's request for the consummation of their marriage

Philippians 1:3-6—I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ;

Romans 8:23—Not only *that*, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.
