

Homework for Week 3

Read through Song of Songs 3:1-11 and answer the following questions.

1. Where is the Shulamith in 3:1 and what is she doing?

2. What does she do about it according to verse 2? Is she successful?

3. Who finds her according to verse 3? What does she ask them?

4. What happens after she passes by them in verse 4?

5. Where does she bring her Beloved according to the end of verse 4?

6. What does she tell the daughters of Jerusalem in verse 5?

7. How would you describe the mood change in verses 1-5 that you just analyzed?
 - A. Happy to sad
 - B. Anxious longing to joyful expectation
 - C. Angry impatience to disappointed discovery

8. The scene changes starting in verse 6. From where is the Shulamith coming out of? (We know this is the Shulamith because the word "this" of "Who is this" is feminine in the Hebrew language, referring to her).

9. What is the Shulamith described as in verse 6 and what is she scented with?

10. Who meets her in verse 7?

11. What are the daughter of Zion directed to do according to verse 11?

12. What is the day according to verse 11?

Background reading:

This week we are going to look at the doctrine of the rapture of the church. This may be what Scripture is prophetically alluding to in Song of Songs 3:6-11. Read the following passages in the New Testament that describe the rapture of the church:

READ: John 14:1-6

1. What will Jesus do if he prepares a place for us in the Father's house according to verse 3?

2. Who does Jesus say that He is according to verse 6? What is the only way we come to the Father?

READ: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

3. By what authority was the apostle Paul telling the Thessalonian church according to verse 15? What was he telling them in verse 15? (Note: The word "asleep" that Paul used meant believers in Jesus who had died already or "the dead in Christ" in verse 16.)

4. What will the Lord do according to verse 16?

5. Who will rise first according to verse 16?

6. What will happen to "we who are alive and remain" according to verse 17?

7. What does Paul tell the church to do with "these words" in verse 18?

READ: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

8. What is the "mystery" the apostle Paul tells the Corinthian church in verse 51?

9. How fast will this occur according to verse 52?

10. What should the church do in light of this knowledge according to verse 58?

READ: Titus 2:11-15

11. What should the church be looking for according to verse 13?

12. What is the church to do with “these things” according to verse 15?

READ: Revelation 4:1-11

13. The apostle John is now describing what he saw “after these things” (meaning the letters written to the seven churches in chapters 2-3). What did he see according to the beginning of verse 1?

14. What did the “first voice...like a trumpet” say to him according to the end of verse 1?

15. What did John experience “immediately” according to verse 2? What did he see in verse 2?

Personal reflection: What stood out to you the most in the scene John describes of the Throne Room of Heaven in Revelation 4?

WEEK THREE: SONG OF SONGS 3

Chapter Theme: From Longing to the Day

*Go forth, O daughters of Zion,
And see King Solomon with the crown
With which his mother crowned him
On the day of his wedding,
The day of the gladness of his heart.*

-Song of Songs 3:11

People featured in the chapter:

- The Shulamith
- The Watchmen
- The Beloved
- The Daughters of Jerusalem

Places mentioned in the chapter:

- The Shulamith's room (3:1)
- The city (Jerusalem) (3:2)
- The Shulamith's mother's house (3:4)
- Out of the wilderness (3:6)

(3:1) Chapter 3 begins with the Shulamith longing for her beloved "on [her] bed by night". She longs for him because of the peaceful and joyful encounter she had with him in chapter 2. She longs to be with him and share that experience always, therefore she begins to seek him.

Isaiah 26:9a—With my soul I have desired You in the night,
Yes, by my spirit within me I will seek You early;

(3:2) The Shulamith's diligence
The Biblical value of seeking God daily and not giving up

Proverbs 2:1-5— My son, if you receive my words,
And treasure my commands within you,
So that you incline your ear to wisdom,
And apply your heart to understanding;
Yes, if you cry out for discernment,
And lift up your voice for understanding,
If you seek her as silver,
And search for her as *for* hidden treasures;
Then you will understand the fear of the LORD,
And find the knowledge of God.

(3:3-4a) The watchmen find the Shulamith and point her to her Beloved—
and she finds him

The importance of studying Bible prophecy in order to understand
God

Luke 24:25-27—Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to
believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Ought not the Christ to have
suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” And beginning at Moses
and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things
concerning Himself.

1 Corinthians 14:1-5—Pursue love, and desire spiritual *gifts*, but especially that
you may prophesy. For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to
God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. But
he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. He
who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the
church. I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for
he who prophesies *is* greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he
interprets, that the church may receive edification.

(3:4b-5) The Shulamith holds on to her Beloved—her reward

The Shulamith counsels the Daughters of Jerusalem to have
patience

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.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7—Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

(3:6) The Shulamith as the procession, coming out of the wilderness

2 Corinthians 2:14-15—Now thanks *be* to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.

Revelation 4:1—After these things I looked, and behold, a door *standing* open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard *was* like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."

(3:7-8) Solomon's couch surrounded by sixty valiant men of Israel

Indicates a war that ends in victory

The rapture is the victory at the end of the church age

John 14:1-4—"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know."

2 Timothy 4:17-18—But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear. Also I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion. And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve *me* for His heavenly kingdom. To Him *be* glory forever and ever. Amen!

(3:9-10) Solomon the King and the wood of Lebanon

Points to the cross of Christ

1 Kings 6:14-18—So Solomon built the temple and finished it. And he built the inside walls of the temple with cedar boards; from the floor of the temple to the ceiling he paneled the inside with wood; and he covered the floor of the temple with planks of cypress. Then he built the twenty-cubit room at the rear of the temple, from floor to ceiling, with cedar boards; he built *it* inside as the inner sanctuary, as the Most Holy *Place*. And in front of it the temple sanctuary was forty cubits *long*. The inside of the temple was cedar, carved with ornamental buds and open flowers. All *was* cedar; there was no stone *to be* seen.

Luke 23:26-31—Now as they led Him away, they laid hold of a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian, who was coming from the country, and on him they laid the cross that he might bear *it* after Jesus.

And a great multitude of the people followed Him, and women who also mourned and lamented Him. But Jesus, turning to them, said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For indeed the days are coming in which they will say, 'Blessed *are* the barren, wombs that never bore, and breasts which never nursed!' Then they will begin 'to say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!" ' For if they do these things in the green wood, what will be done in the dry?"

(3:11) The Day

Referred to by the apostle Paul in many of his letters to the churches

2 Thessalonians 1:10—when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed.

2 Timothy 1:12—For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

2 Timothy 4:8—Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.
