**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) except for Chapter 4:16**

**The Shulamite’s Words are 50% of the Song of Songs.**

*\*The Seven-fold Praise of Her Beauty.*

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

*1 Behold, you are fair, my love!*

*Behold, you are fair!*

*You have dove’s eyes behind your veil.*

*Your hair is like a flock of goats,*

*Going down from Mount Gilead.*

*2 Your teeth are like a flock of shorn sheep*

*Which have come up from the washing,*

*Every one of which bears twins,*

*And none is barren among them.*

*3 Your lips are like a strand of scarlet,*

*And your mouth is lovely.*

*Your temples behind your veil*

*Are like a piece of pomegranate.*

*4 Your neck is like the tower of David,*

*Built for an armory,*

*On which hang a thousand bucklers,*

*All shields of mighty men.*

*5 Your two breasts are like two fawns,*

*Twins of a gazelle,*

*Which feed among the lilies.*

*6 Until the day breaks*

*And the shadows flee away,*

*I will go my way to the mountain of myrrh*

*And to the hill of frankincense.*

*7 You are all fair, my love,*

*And there is no spot in you.*

*8 Come with me from Lebanon, my spouse,*

*With me from Lebanon.*

*Look from the top of Amana,*

*From the top of Senir and Hermon,*

*From the lions’ dens,*

*From the mountains of the leopards.*

Insights V:1 **Hair in the Bible speaks of two things.** He is speaking in Allegory, but there is a literal application.

**Consecration** for the Nazarites they were not to cut their hair as a sign of commitment. (Samson) Judges 13:5

**Submission** for the woman and the hair was considered her glory. I Corinthians 11:15

Insights V:2-3 **Idioms about a woman’s looks that were flattery in Solomon’s day. But more!**

**(Allegory) Teeth** and none are missing. Hebrews 5: the mature can digest the strong meat of the Word. She will not leave any part of the Word of God.

**Lips as scarlet.** The Scarlet Thread was Salvation for Rehab. Thin lips were more desirable in this age.

**Temples like pomegranate**. In the Lord’s temple, the redness of pomegranate is an important color. **Jer. 52:22.** Was there a play on words too? **Pomegranates** were a part of the rank on the hem of the garment for men.

Insights V:4-5 **Her sexuality is much more than her ability to have sex.**

**Her neck idiom** is one of royalty and power. The husband may be the head, but the wife is the neck that turns the head. The term here was of nobility and character.

**Her breast idioms** are described as two fawns. There is pleasure in petting and playing with them.

**The Allegory actually has a very unique connection to the Bible**.

**The Two Testaments of the Bible**. Love them, and don’t let go of them.

**At this time, the Rabbis** wrongly put the reading of Song of Songs to those only over 30 years of age.

Insights V:6-8 **A whole night of the sanctity of Love and oneness.** V:7 No spot in you is a reference to lamb or heifer without blemish.

**The idiom is the adventure of traveling to ecstatic heights and pleasure, describing the transformation of the fear of the lion’s den to the joy of marital love.**

\*The Sixth Reflection: The Wedding Night

\*Song of Solomon 4:9—5:1

*9 You have ravished my heart,*

*My sister, my spouse;*

*You have ravished my heart*

*With one look of your eyes,*

*With one link of your necklace.*

*10 How fair is your love,*

*My sister, my spouse!*

*How much better than wine is your love,*

*And the scent of your perfumes*

*Than all spices!*

*11 Your lips, O my spouse,*

*Drip as the honeycomb;*

*Honey and milk are under your tongue;*

*And the fragrance of your garments*

*Is like the fragrance of Lebanon.*

*12 A garden enclosed*

*Is my sister, my spouse,*

*A spring shut up,*

*A fountain sealed.*

*13 Your plants are an orchard of pomegranates*

*With pleasant fruits,*

*Fragrant henna with spikenard,*

*14 Spikenard and saffron,*

*Calamus and cinnamon,*

*With all trees of frankincense,*

*Myrrh and aloes,*

*With all the chief spices—*

*15 A fountain of gardens,*

*A well of living waters,*

*And streams from Lebanon.*

***The Shulamite***

*16 Awake, O north wind,*

*And come, O south!*

*Blow upon my garden,*

*That its spices may flow out.*

*Let my beloved come to his garden*

*And eat its pleasant fruits.*

***The Beloved***

*5:1 I have come to my garden, my sister, my spouse;*

*I have gathered my myrrh with my spice;*

*I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey;*

*I have drunk my wine with my milk.*

*Eat, O friends!*

*Drink, yes, drink deeply,*

*O beloved ones!*

Insight V:9-10: **A love engraved into the married couple's hearts.**

**Notice it is a heart connection then a physical one.** The sister and spouse is saying they are now family.

Insights V:11-15 **The details of creating an environment for romance, not just sex.** It’s for the joy of the celebration of what God made sacred.

**V:12 Her sexuality was sealed only to be accessed by the rightful owner.**

**God allows** such beautiful graphic descriptions here because it takes us back to the garden of Eden, where God declares it’s not good for man to be alone.

**We are literally celebrating the creation of sex** that God gave humanity in this situation. All other sexual situations do not have this splendor.

V:16 **A married woman is free in her sexuality because of the safety of the marital bed.**

**The garden, she now declares it’s his garden.** Nowhere in the Bible do we ever see a public garden? For the young ladies, it is a private garden until marriage, when they freely give themselves to the groom.

Insights 5:1 **The night is celebrated as the anniversary that brought us to a new beginning.**

**The closing statement to eat and drink deeply** is a call from God to celebrate His gift to humanity, marriage, and martial bed.