



# Love Story



A STUDY OF THE SONG OF SOLOMON

1:15-2:2



Song 1:15 Behold, thou *art* fair, my love; behold, thou *art* fair; thou *hast* doves' eyes.

16 Behold, thou *art* fair, my beloved, yea, pleasant: also our bed *is* green.

17 The beams of our house *are* cedar, *and* our rafters of fir.

2:1 I *am* the rose of Sharon, *and* the lily of the valleys.

2 As the lily among thorns, so *is* my love among the daughters.

A photograph of a couple holding hands in a field of tall grass at sunset. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a soft glow. The couple is in the foreground, with their hands clasped together. The background shows a vast field of tall grasses, some of which are in focus, creating a sense of depth. The overall mood is romantic and serene.

Tonight, we continue our new journey into the first chapter of the Song of Solomon.

I. AN HOUR OF TROUBLE, 1:1-8

*Introduction*, 1:1

The Shulamite remembers:

A. The Fervor Her Beloved Had Shown toward Her, 1:1-2

B. The Fragrance Her Beloved Had Shed upon Her, 1:3-6

1. She Talks About Him, 1:3-4

a. The Magnificence of his Presence, 1:3a

b. The Magnetism of his Personality, 1:3b-4



2. She Talks About Herself, 1:5-6

a. She Describes Herself, 1:5

b. She Defends Herself, 1:6a-b

c. She Despises Herself, 1:6c “...*but* mine own vineyard have I not kept.”

C. The Freedom Her Beloved Had Shared with Her, 1:7-8

1. How it was Recalled, 1:7

2. How it was Responded, 1:8

## II. AN HOUR OF TEMPTATION, 1:9-11

### A. A Word of Praise, 1:9-10

1. Concerning the Power of the Shulamite, 1:9
2. Concerning the Person of the Shulamite, 1:10

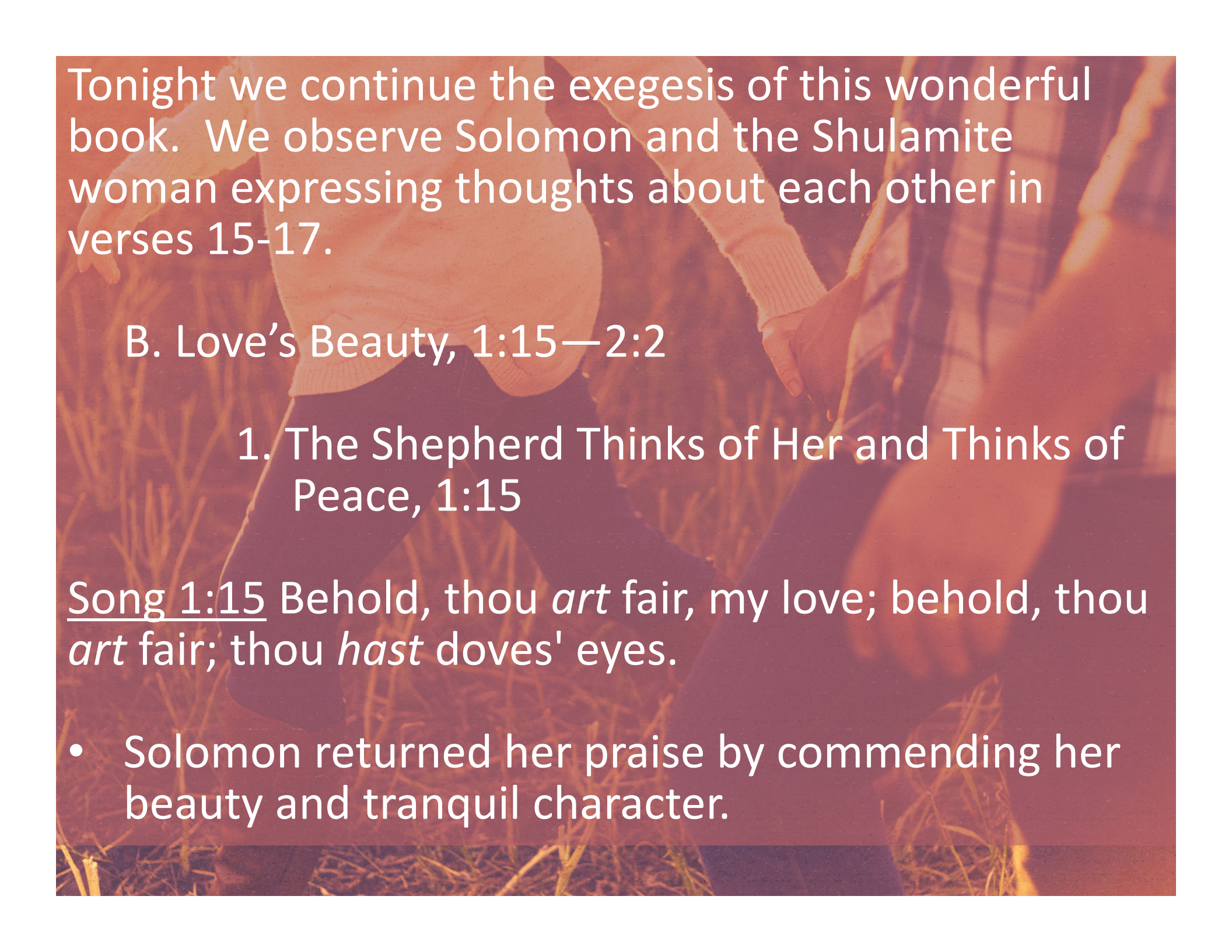
### B. A Word of Promise, 1:11

1. Solomon Offers Gold, Symbol of Sovereignty, 1:11a
2. Solomon Offers Silver, Symbol of Salvation, 1:11b

## III. AN HOUR OF TENDERNESS, 1:12—2:7

### A. Love's Bravery, 1:12-14

1. The Shulamite's Loyalty Explained, 1:12
2. The Shulamite's Love Expressed, 1:13-14

A romantic scene of a couple holding hands in a field of tall grass at sunset. The man is wearing a white sweater and the woman is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is a warm, golden-orange glow from the setting sun.

Tonight we continue the exegesis of this wonderful book. We observe Solomon and the Shulamite woman expressing thoughts about each other in verses 15-17.

## B. Love's Beauty, 1:15—2:2

### 1. The Shepherd Thinks of Her and Thinks of Peace, 1:15

Song 1:15 Behold, thou *art* fair, my love; behold, thou *art* fair; thou *hast* doves' eyes.

- Solomon returned her praise by commending her beauty and tranquil character.

- In ancient Mesopotamia, doves were prominent animal symbols of Inanna-Ishtar, the goddess of love, sexuality, and war...In classical antiquity, doves were sacred to the Greek goddess Aphrodite, who absorbed this association with doves from Inanna-Ishtar.

<https://psy-minds.com/doves/>





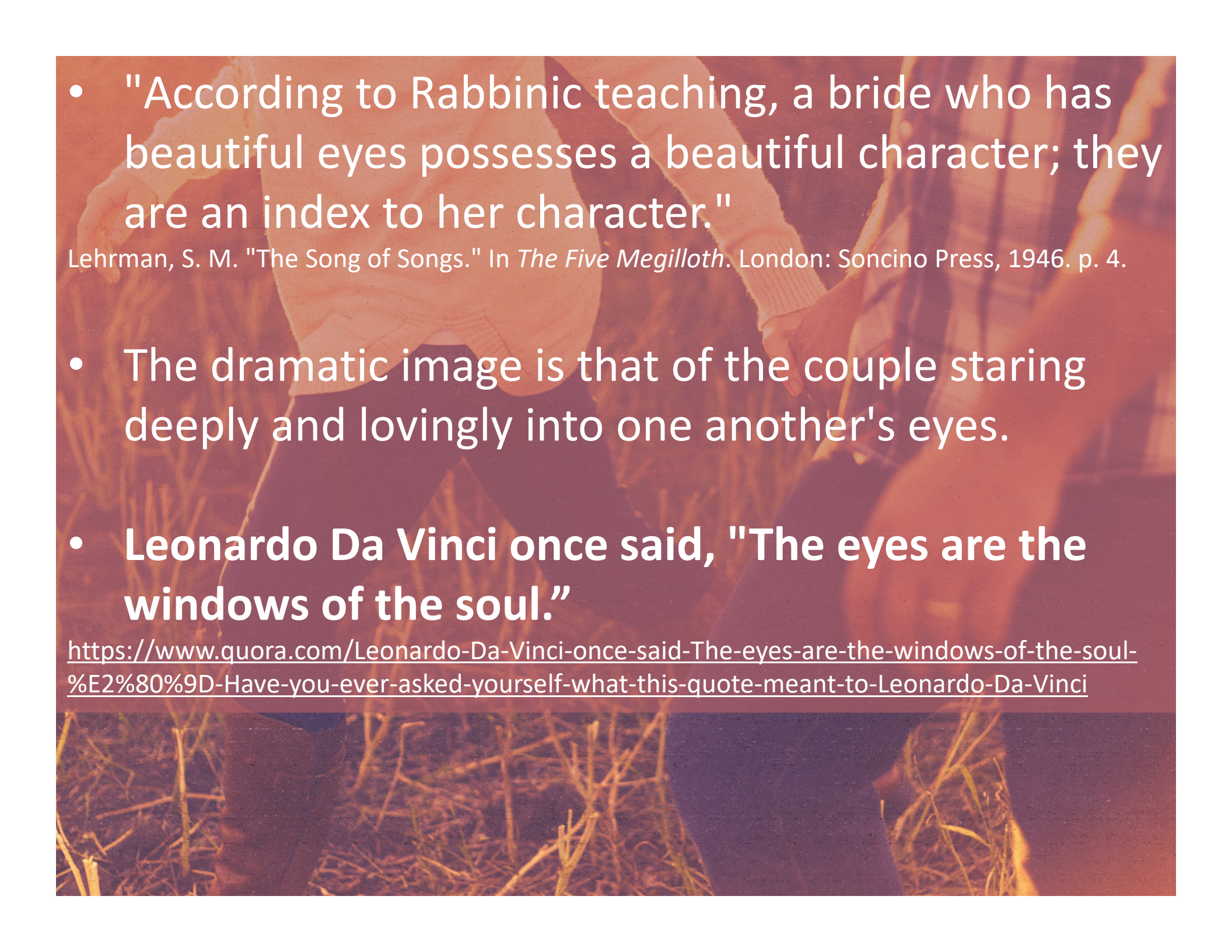
<http://dovessong.blogspot.com>



- Christianity values a dove as a symbol of the Holy Spirit and peace.

Mt. 3:16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw **the Spirit of God descending like a dove**, and lighting upon him:

Luke 3:22 And **the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove** upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

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- "According to Rabbinic teaching, a bride who has beautiful eyes possesses a beautiful character; they are an index to her character."

Lehrman, S. M. "The Song of Songs." In *The Five Megilloth*. London: Soncino Press, 1946. p. 4.

- The dramatic image is that of the couple staring deeply and lovingly into one another's eyes.
- **Leonardo Da Vinci once said, "The eyes are the windows of the soul."**

<https://www.quora.com/Leonardo-Da-Vinci-once-said-The-eyes-are-the-windows-of-the-soul-%E2%80%9D-Have-you-ever-asked-yourself-what-this-quote-meant-to-Leonardo-Da-Vinci>

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- The proverb has been attributed to Shakespeare, and Cicero.
  - The Bible expresses a correlation between the eyes and the body:

Mt. 6:22 **The light of the body is the eye:** if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. **If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great *is* that darkness!**

A romantic couple walking in a field at sunset. The woman is wearing a white sweater and dark pants, and the man is wearing a plaid shirt and dark pants. They are holding hands and walking towards the camera. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a field of tall grass.

## 2. The Shulamite Thinks of Him and Thinks of Paradise, 1:16—2:1

### a. The Prospect She Covets, 1:16

Song 1:16 Behold, thou *art* fair, my beloved, yea, pleasant: also our bed *is* green.

- The Shulamite girl probably spoke both of these verses, 16-17.
- "Pleasant" refers to Solomon's charming personality.

Original Word: רָעַן

Transliteration: raanan

Definition: luxuriant, fresh (green)

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/7488.htm>

Psa. 23:2 **He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:** he leadeth me beside the still waters.

- The picture of the greenery is one of peace and provisions – resources and rest.

Eph. 2:14 **“For he is our peace...”**

## b. The Place She Contemplates, 1:17

Song 1:17 The beams of our house *are* cedar, *and* our rafters of fir.

- The references to "beams," "house," and "rafters" probably allude to a place in the countryside where the lovers liked to meet and talk, perhaps a country house.
- She contemplates a place to call "home."

Jn. 14:1 **Let not your heart be troubled:** ye believe in God, believe also in me.

2 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.**

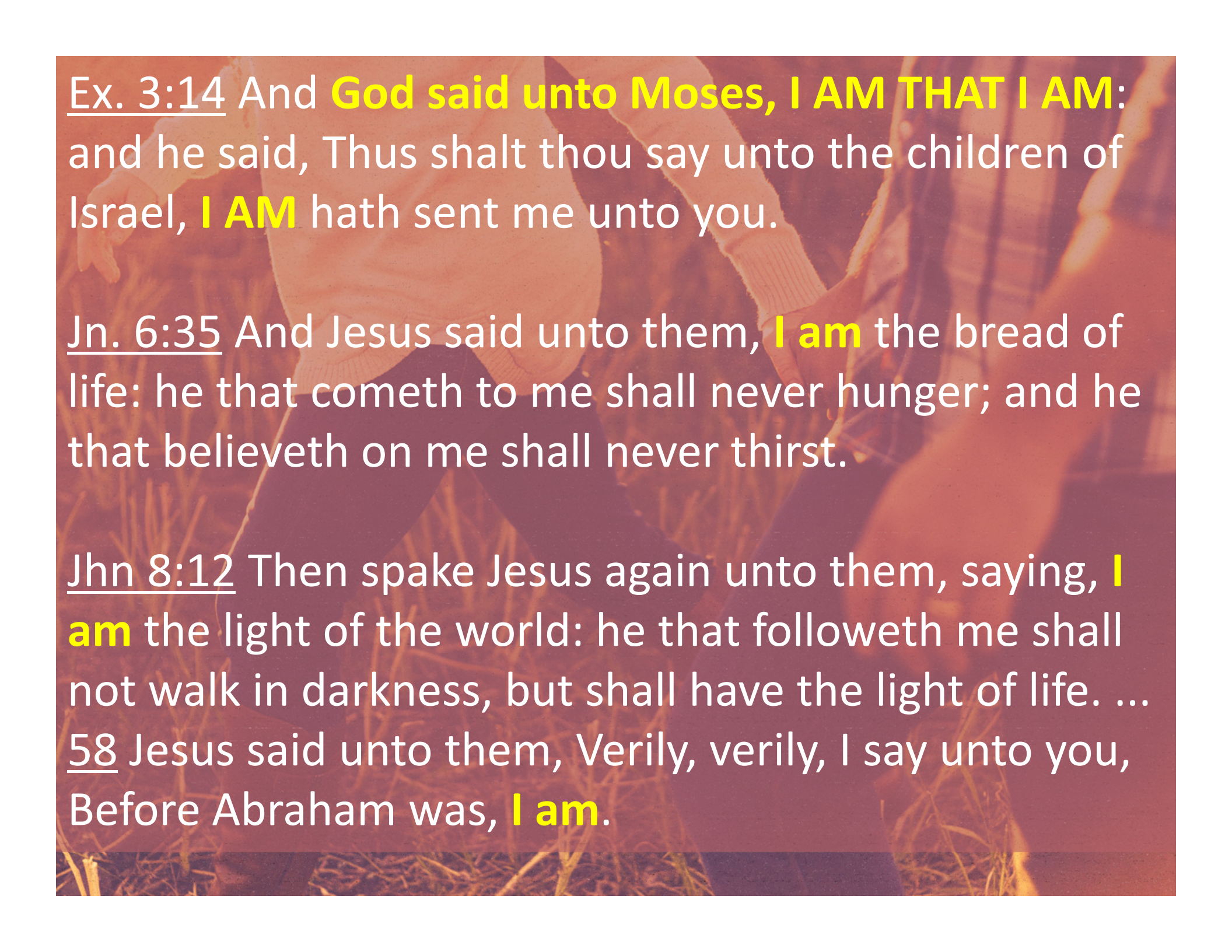
3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that **where I am, there ye may be also.**



c. The Person She Considers, 2:1

Song 2:1 I *am* the rose of Sharon, *and* the lily of the valleys.

- This verse is debatable among Bible scholars as to the speaker.
- Personally, I believe the context with verse two indicates it is the Bridegroom speaking.
- “I *am*” is connected with the Lord Jesus Christ.



Ex. 3:14 And **God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM:** and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, **I AM** hath sent me unto you.

Jn. 6:35 And Jesus said unto them, **I am** the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

Jhn 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am** the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. ...  
58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, **I am**.





Jn. 10:9 **I am** the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. ...

14 **I am** the good shepherd, and know my *sheep*, and am known of mine.

Jn. 12:46 **I am** come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

Jn. 13:13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so **I am**.

Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am** the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Jn. 15:1 **I am** the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

Jn. 18:6 **As soon then as he had said** unto them, **I am** *he*, **they went backward, and fell to the ground.**

- The "rose of Sharon" probably refers to flowers on the plain of Sharon that bordered the Mediterranean Sea south of the Carmel mountain range.
- The Lord Jesus Christ is "...the lily of the valleys."
- When His children are in "the valleys," He is there!

Heb 13:5 "...for he hath said, **I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**"




## God on the Mountain by Lynda Randle

Life is easy, when you're up on the mountain  
And you've got peace of mind, like you've never known  
But then things change, and when you're down in the valley  
Don't lose faith child, you are never alone

For the God on the mountain, is still God in the valley  
When things go wrong, He'll make them right  
And the God of the good times, is still God in the bad times  
The God of the day, is still God in the night

We talk of faith when we're up on the mountain  
But the talk comes so easy, when life's at its best  
Now it's down in the valleys, of trials and temptations  
That's where your faith is really put to the test



For the God on the mountain, is still God in the valley,  
When things go wrong, he'll make them right  
And the God of the good times, is still God in the bad times  
The God of the day, is still God in the night  
The God of the day, is still God in the night

<https://www.gospellyrics.org/lyrics/god-on-the-mountain-lyrics/>

- The connection with Solomon and lilies are also in the New Testament:

Mt. 6:28 And why take ye thought for raiment?

**Consider the lilies of the field**, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29 And yet I say unto you, That **even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.**

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven,

***shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?*** (Luke 12:27)



### 3. The Shepherd Thinks of Her and Thinks of Purity, 2:2

Song 2:2 As **the lily among thorns**, so is my love among the daughters.

- The Bridegroom called Himself a lily, and then called His Bride a lily, too.
- The Bride is a reflection of the Bridegroom:

Jn. 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world**: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.



Mt. 5:14 **Ye are the light of the world.** A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

Eph. 5:8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but **now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:**

1 Thess. 5:5 **Ye are all the children of light**, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

- The “lily among thorns” distinguishes the difference between the church and the world.

Jn. 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but **because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.**



Jn. 17:14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, **because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. ...**

16 **They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.**

- The contrast displayed is lilies versus thorns:

Gen. 3:17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: **cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;**

18 **Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee;** and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;





Prov. 22:5 **Thorns and snares** are in the way of the froward: he that doth keep his soul shall be far from them.

Mt. 13:7 And **some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:** ...

22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

Mark 4:7 And some fell among thorns, and **the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit.**

Heb. 6:8 But **that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected,** and *is* nigh unto cursing; **whose end is to be burned.**

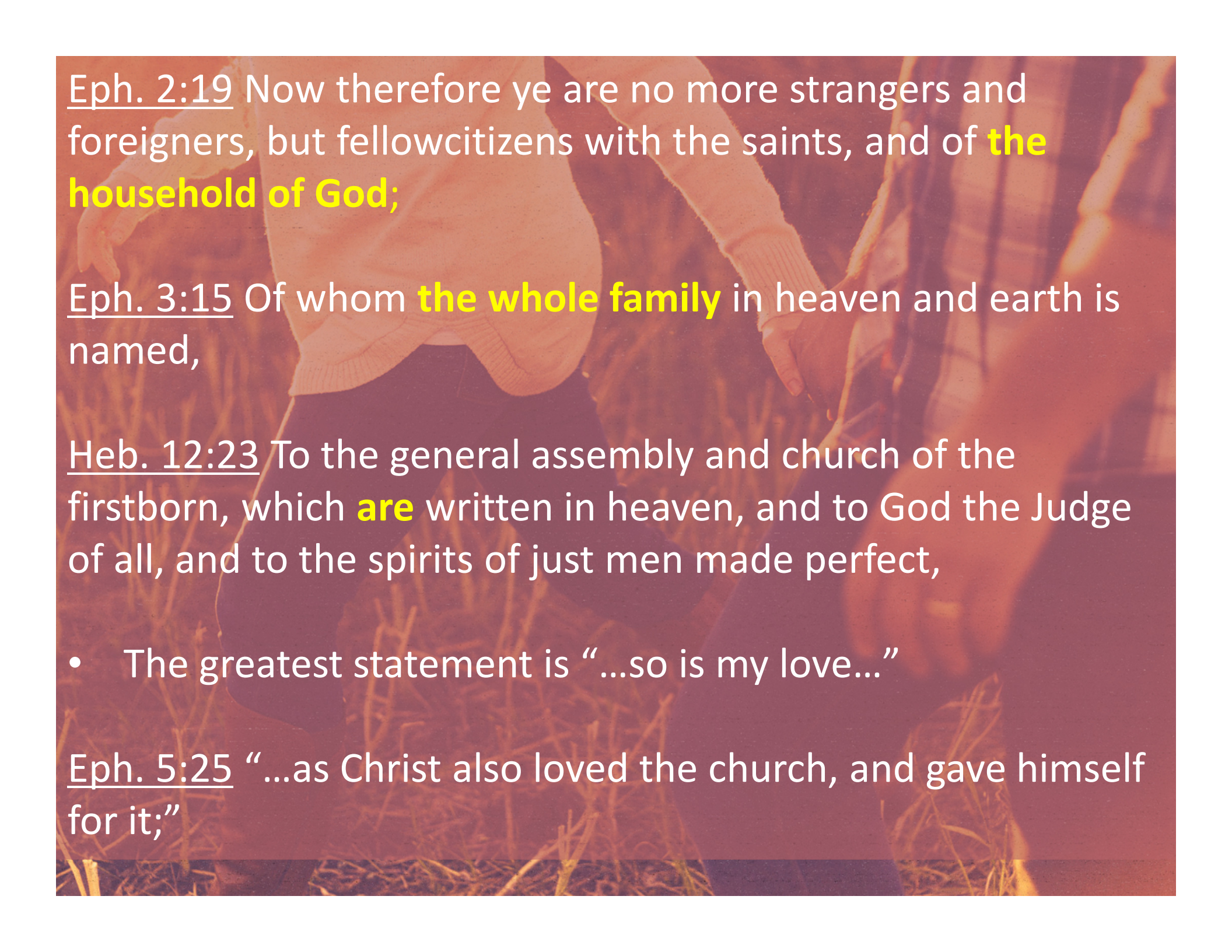
2 Sam. 23:6 But **the sons of Belial shall be all of them as thorns thrust away**, because they cannot be taken with hands:

7 But the man *that* shall touch them must be fenced with iron and the staff of a spear; and **they shall be utterly burned with fire** in the *same* place.

- The statement, “...among the daughters.” is a reminder of the special place of the Bride in the eyes of the Bridegroom.

Song 6:8 There are **threescore queens**, and **fourscore concubines**, and **virgins without number**.

9 **My dove**, my undefiled is *but* one; she *is* the *only* one of her mother, she *is* the choice *one* of her that bare her. **The daughters** saw her, and blessed her; **yea, the queens and the concubines, and they praised her.**



Eph. 2:19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of **the household of God**;

Eph. 3:15 Of whom **the whole family** in heaven and earth is named,

Heb. 12:23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which **are** written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

- The greatest statement is “...so is my love...”

Eph. 5:25 “...as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;”

## Conclusion

Jn. 15:9 **As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved** you: continue ye in my love.

Jn. 16:27 For **the Father himself loveth you**, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

Jhn 17:23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and **that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.**

Gal. 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of **the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.**