

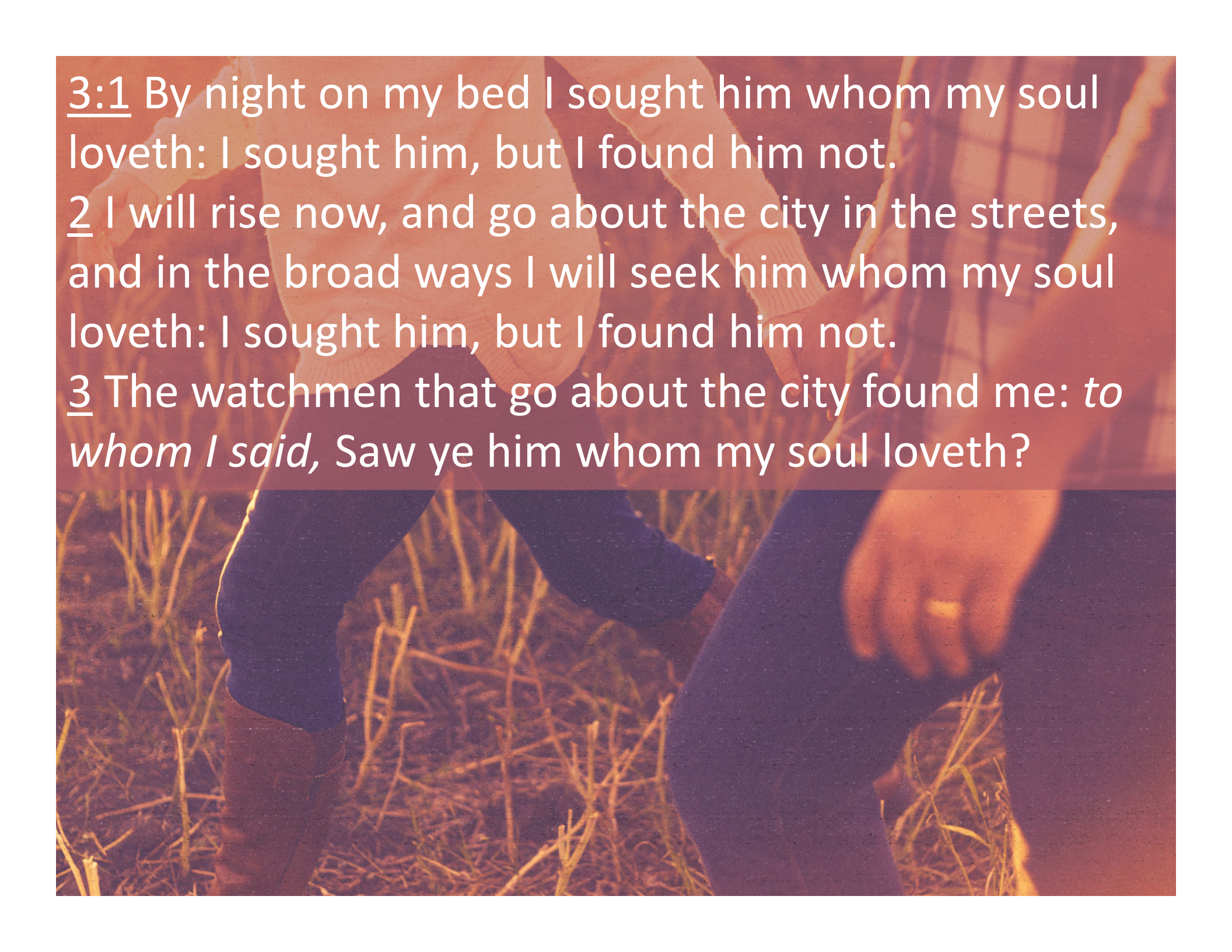
A photograph of a couple walking through a field of tall grass at sunset. The woman is on the left, wearing a light-colored sweater and dark pants, holding the hand of the man on the right, who is wearing a plaid shirt. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light.

Love Story



A STUDY OF THE SONG OF SOLOMON

3:1-3

A photograph of two people holding hands in a field of tall grass, overlaid with a semi-transparent dark red rectangle containing text. The text is in white and reads:

3:1 By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not.
2 I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets, and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not.
3 The watchmen that go about the city found me: *to whom I said, Saw ye him whom my soul loveth?*



Let's review what we have covered thus far in this wonderful book 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
- C. The Freedom Her Beloved Had Shared with Her, 1:7-8

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

- A. A Word of Praise, 1:9-10
- B. A Word of Promise, 1:11

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 peaceful.

III. AN HOUR OF TENDERNESS, 1:12—2:7

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

B. Love's Beauty, 1:15—2:2

C. Love's Bounty, 2:3-6

D. Love's Boundary, 2:7

IV. AN HOUR OF TRUTH, 2:8—3:5

A. The Love of the Shepherd, 2:8-14

1. The Coming of the Shepherd, 2:8-9

2. The Call of the Shepherd, 2:10-14

A photograph of a couple walking in a field of tall grass at sunset. The woman is on the left, wearing a white sweater and dark pants, and the man is on the right, wearing a plaid shirt and dark pants. They are holding hands and walking away from the camera. The background is a warm, golden glow from the setting sun.

B. The Love of the Shulamite, 2:15—3:5

1. A Hindered Love, 2:15-17

a. Her Problem, 2:15

b. Her Passion, 2:16-17

(1) Her Passionate Loyalty, 2:16-17a

(2) Her Passionate Longing, 2:17b

A romantic scene of a couple holding hands in a field of tall grass at sunset. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange-red filter. The couple is seen from the waist down, with their hands clasped together. The background is a soft, warm glow from the setting sun, creating a dreamy atmosphere.

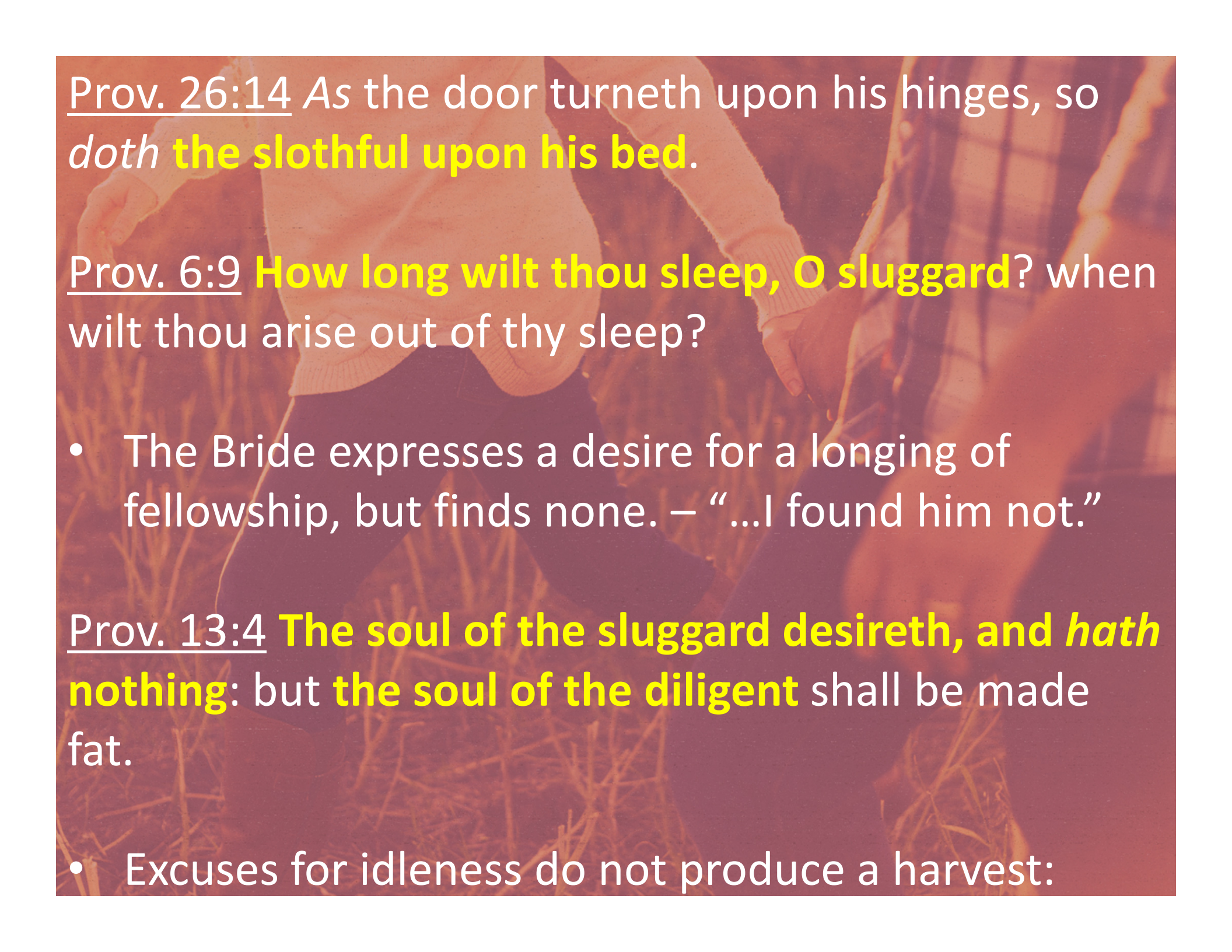
Tonight we continue the exegesis of this wonderful book as we begin chapter three.

2. A Hungry Love, 3:1-3

a. Her Frantic Search, 3:1

3:1 By night on my bed I sought him whom my soul loveth: I sought him, but I found him not.

- This chapter begins with the Bride being in bed, thinking about her beloved, but He isn't there.
- The idleness of a dreamy relationship cools the embers of a real relationship.



Prov. 26:14 As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth **the slothful upon his bed.**

Prov. 6:9 **How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard?** when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

- The Bride expresses a desire for a longing of fellowship, but finds none. – “...I found him not.”

Prov. 13:4 **The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing:** but **the soul of the diligent** shall be made fat.

- Excuses for idleness do not produce a harvest:

Prov. 20:4 **The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.**

- A church, like the Bride in verse 1, must be active for the Bridegroom.

Amos 6:1 **Woe to them that are at ease in Zion**, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, *which are* named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came! ...

4 That **lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches**, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall;

5 That chant to the sound of the viol, *and* invent to themselves instruments of musick, like David;

6 That drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: **but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.**

- A lukewarm church will lose discernment and fall into the deceitfulness of sin.


Rev. 3:14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

15 **I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot:** I would thou wert cold or hot.

16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

17 Because **thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing;** and **knowest not** that thou art **wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:**

18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

- 
- The coldness of heart leads to idleness, which leads to complacency, which ends in a powerless Christian and church.

2 Tim. 3:5 **Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof:** from such turn away.

Mt. 24:12 And because iniquity shall abound, **the love of many shall wax cold.**

- The solution for cold church is to step out by faith into the Lord's harvest.

Gal. 5:6 "...but **faith which worketh by love.**"



b. Her Foolish Supposition, 3:2

3:2 I will rise now, and go about the city in the streets,
and in the broad ways I will seek him whom my soul
loveth: **I sought him, but I found him not.**

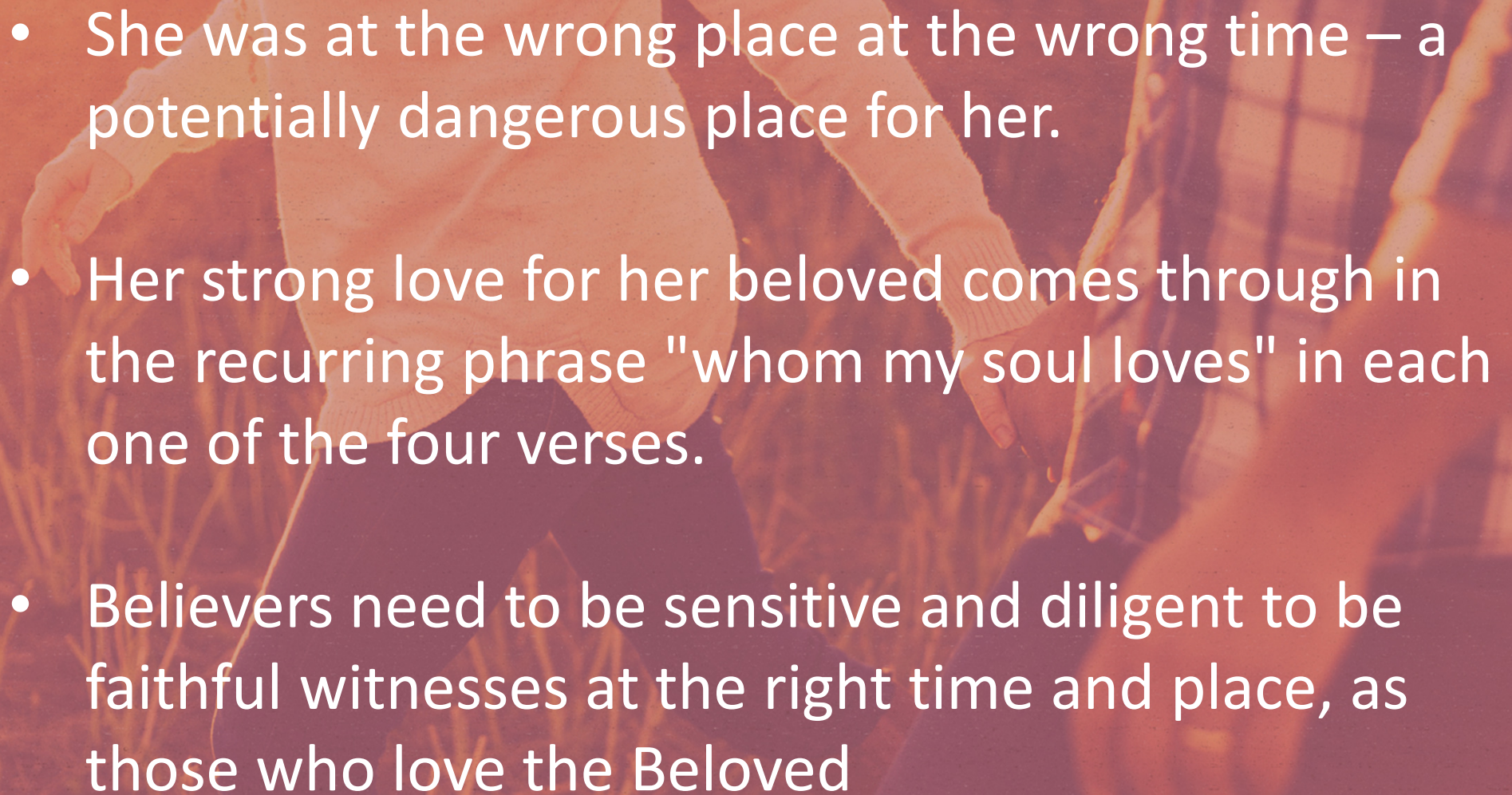
- The Bride looked for the Shepherd-Beloved in the city.
- The declaration of loving the Beloved did not negate her misdirected search.
- There is a difference in seeking the Shepherd and in seeking His ministry.

- 
- The Bride must always seek Him, and then His place of service.

c. Her False Situation, 3:3

3:3 The watchmen that go about the city found me: *to whom I said, **Saw ye him whom my soul loveth?***

- The watchmen could have misjudged what the Bride's motive would be – such as a “woman of the night.”
- The motive of the Bride was honorable, but the method of searching was questionable.

- 
- She was at the wrong place at the wrong time – a potentially dangerous place for her.
 - Her strong love for her beloved comes through in the recurring phrase "whom my soul loves" in each one of the four verses.
 - Believers need to be sensitive and diligent to be faithful witnesses at the right time and place, as those who love the Beloved

Conclusion

Rom. 13:11 And that, knowing the time, that **now it is high time to awake out of sleep**: for now *is* our salvation nearer than when we believed.

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: **let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.**

13 **Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.**

14 But **put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ**, and make not provision for the flesh, to *fulfil* the lusts *thereof*.