

A photograph of a couple walking through a field of tall grass at sunset. The woman is wearing a light-colored sweater and dark pants, and the man is 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.

# Love Story



A STUDY OF THE SONG OF SOLOMON

2:8-14

Song 2:8 The voice of my beloved! behold, he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills.

9 My beloved is like a roe or a young hart: behold, he standeth behind our wall, he looketh forth at the windows, shewing himself through the lattice.

10 My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.

11 For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over *and* gone;

12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing *of birds* is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;

13 The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines *with* the tender grape give a *good* smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

14 O my dove, *that art* in the clefts of the rock, in the secret *places* of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet *is* thy voice, and thy countenance *is* comely.





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



III. AN HOUR OF TENDERNESS, 1:12—2:7

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

B. Love's Beauty, 1:15—2:2

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

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

a. The Prospect She Covets, 1:16

b. The Place She Contemplates, 1:17

c. The Person She Considers, 2:1

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



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

1. The Bounty of a Forest, 2:3

a. Its Protection, 2:3a

b. Its Provision, 2:3b

2. The Bounty of a Feast, 2:4-6

a. The Banquet, 2:4a

b. The Banner, 2:4b

c. The Beloved, 2:5-6

(1) His Love Overwhelms Her, 2:5

(2) His Love Overjoys Her, 2:6

D. Love's Boundary, 2:7

1. The Masculinity of the Worldly Women of the Court, 2:7a

2. The Modesty of the Shulamite from the Country, 2:7b



Tonight we continue the exegesis of this wonderful book in chapter two.

Whereas the setting so far had been Israel, it now shifts to the Shulamite's home that was evidently in Lebanon (cf. 4:8, 15).

Song 4:8 Come with me **from Lebanon**, *my* spouse, with me **from Lebanon**: look from the top of Amana, from the top of Shenir and Hermon, from the lions' dens, from the mountains of the leopards.

15 A fountain of gardens, a well of living waters, and streams **from Lebanon**.



## 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

##### a. How the Shulamite Describes Him, 2:8

- The Shulamite enjoys talking about her beloved.
- When we are free to talk randomly about any subject, we usually desire to talk about that which is dear to our heart – be it work, hobby, sports, and especially, a person.



- 
- A believer truly enjoys discussing the Savior.
  - The Shulamite readily reveals what is on her mind.

(1) She Remembers His Voice, 2:8a  
“The voice of my beloved!...”

- The first thing mentioned is his voice.
  - The first mention of the word “voice” was in the Garden of Eden:

Gen. 3:8 And they heard **the voice of the LORD God** walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.

- Can you imagine Mary Magdalen's thankful heart when she heard the Lord Jesus cast out her devils!

Luke 8:2 And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, **Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils,**

- Can you imagine Lazarus in the tomb hearing the Lord Jesus – “Lazarus, come forth.”

Jn. 11:43 And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, **Lazarus, come forth.**

44 And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

- Sheep hear and know the voice of THEIR Shepherd:

Jn. 10:3 To him the porter openeth; and **the sheep hear his voice:** and **he calleth his own sheep by name**, and leadeth them out.

4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and **the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.**

5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for **they know not the voice of strangers.** ...

16 And **other sheep I have, which are not of this fold:** them also I must bring, and **they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.** ...

27 **My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:**

- The Scriptures use the word “voice” to indicate power and authority:

Psa. 29:3 **The voice of the LORD** is upon the waters: the God of glory thundereth: the LORD is upon many waters.

4 **The voice of the LORD** is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

5 **The voice of the LORD** breaketh the cedars; yea, the LORD breaketh the cedars of Lebanon. ...

7 **The voice of the LORD** divideth the flames of fire.

8 **The voice of the LORD** shaketh the wilderness; the LORD shaketh the wilderness of Kadesh.

9 **The voice of the LORD** maketh the hinds to calve, and discovereth the forests: and in his temple doth every one speak of *his* glory.



Psa. 68:33 To him that rideth upon the heavens of heavens, *which were* of old; **lo, he doth send out his voice, and that a mighty voice.**

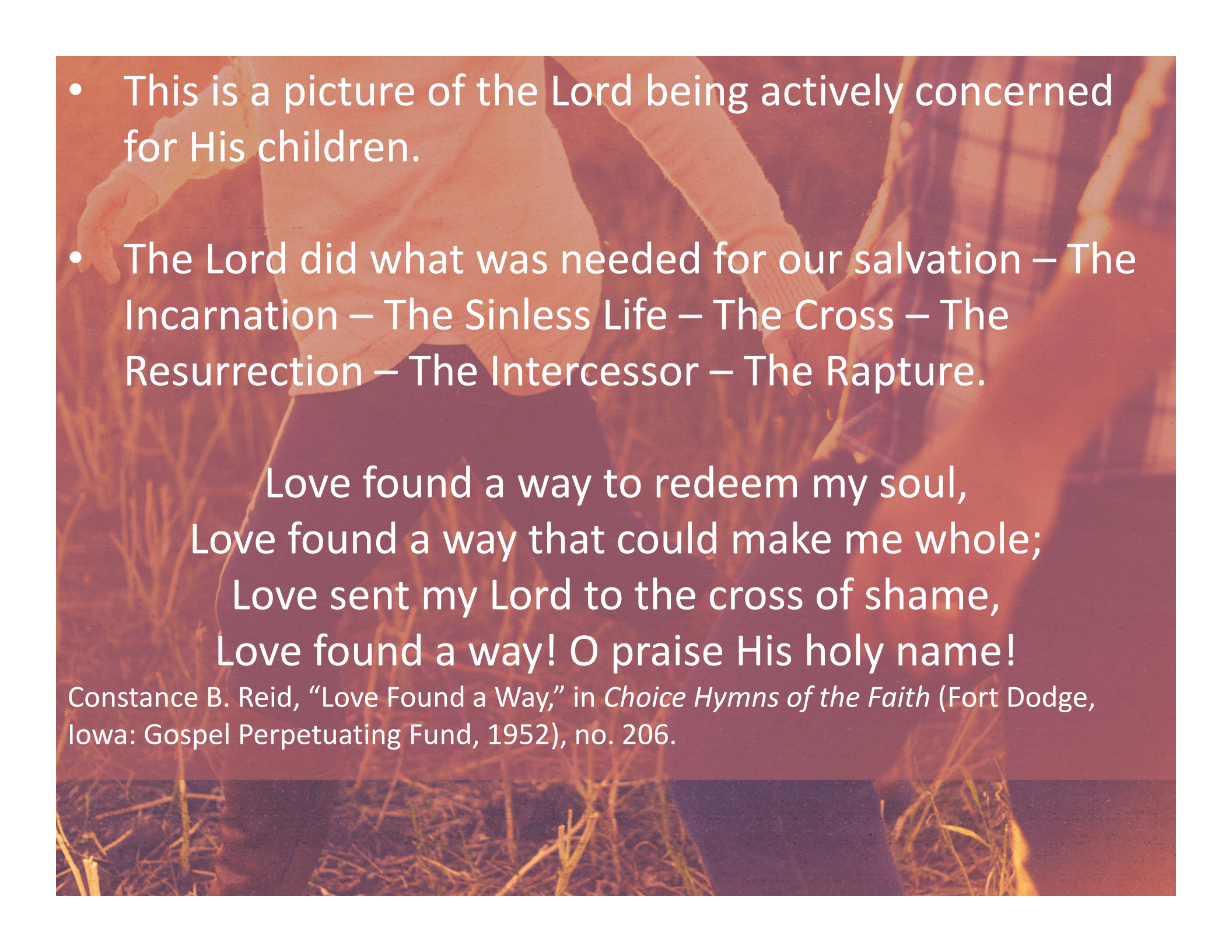
Amos 1:2 And he said, **The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem;** and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither.

Mt. 3:17 And lo **a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**

- To hear the voice of a loved one is to awaken passion and longing for the one who is loved and missed.

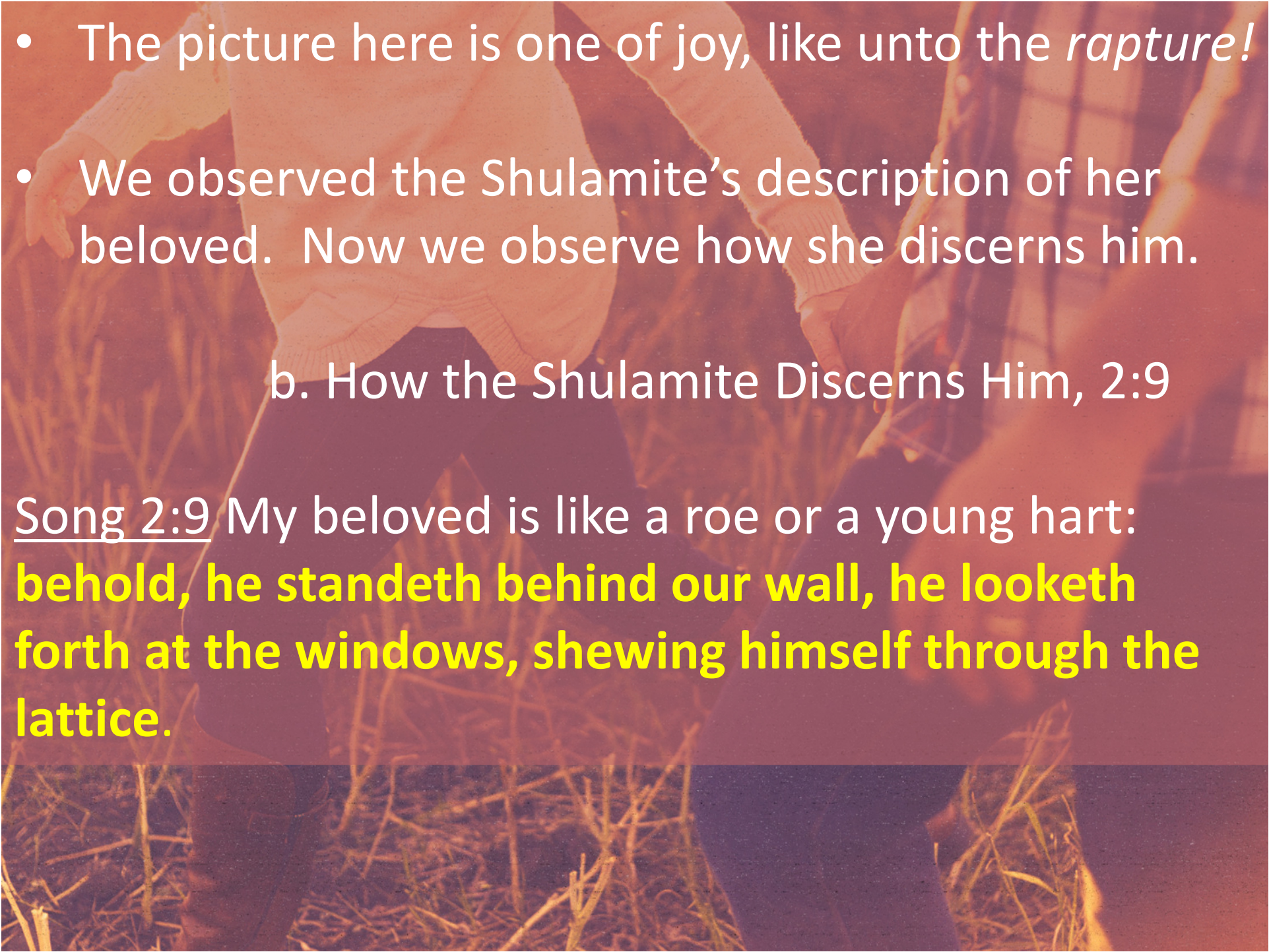
1 Thess. 4:16 For **the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel,** and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

(2) She Remembers His Vigor, 2:8b  
“...behold, he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills.”

- 
- This is a picture of the Lord being actively concerned for His children.
  - The Lord did what was needed for our salvation – The Incarnation – The Sinless Life – The Cross – The Resurrection – The Intercessor – The Rapture.

Love found a way to redeem my soul,  
Love found a way that could make me whole;  
Love sent my Lord to the cross of shame,  
Love found a way! O praise His holy name!

Constance B. Reid, "Love Found a Way," in *Choice Hymns of the Faith* (Fort Dodge, Iowa: Gospel Perpetuating Fund, 1952), no. 206.

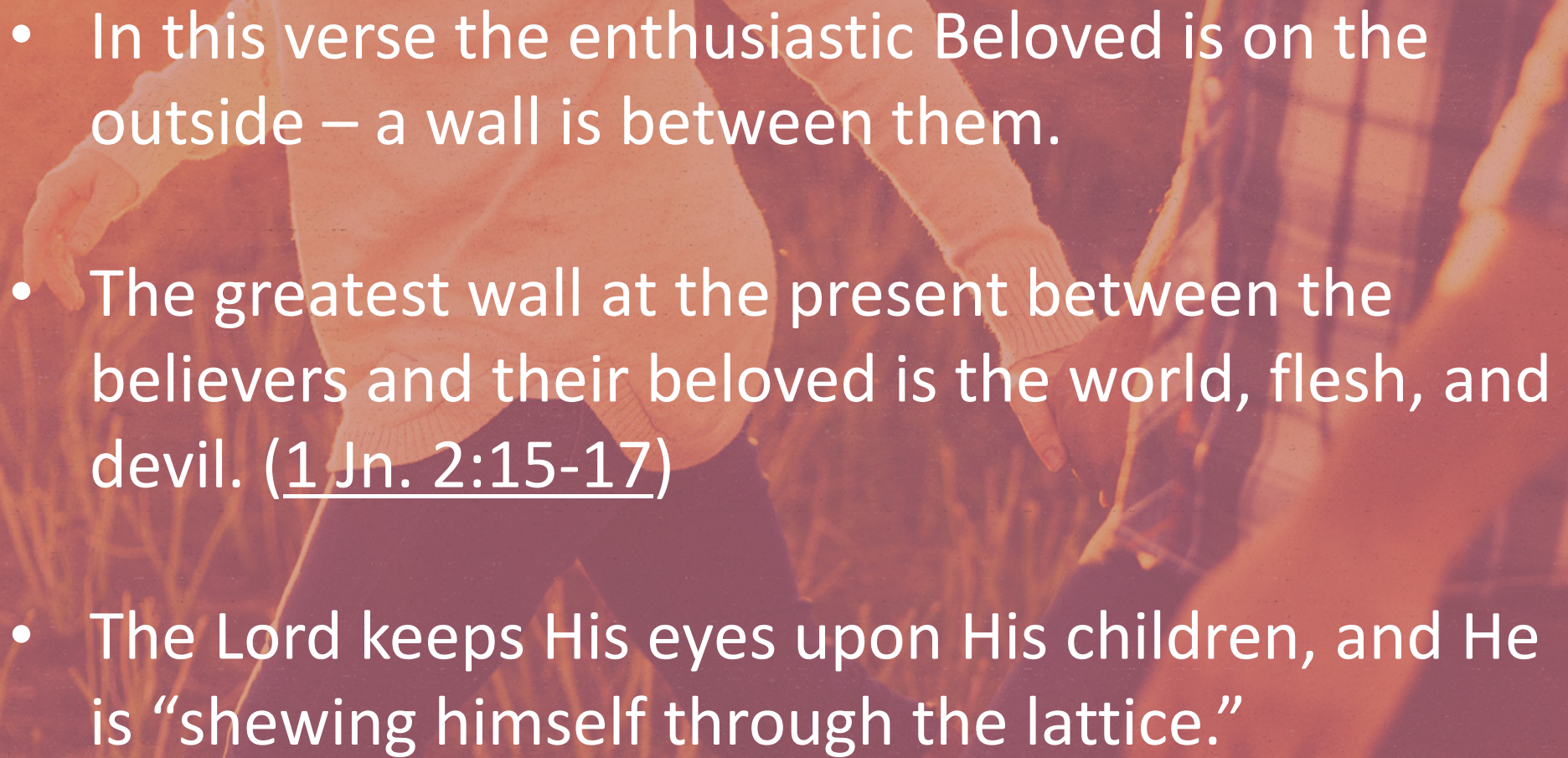
- 
- The picture here is one of joy, like unto the *rapture!*
  - We observed the Shulamite's description of her beloved. Now we observe how she discerns him.

b. How the Shulamite Discerns Him, 2:9

Song 2:9 My beloved is like a roe or a young hart:

**behold, he standeth behind our wall, he looketh forth at the windows, shewing himself through the lattice.**



- 
- In this verse the enthusiastic Beloved is on the outside – a wall is between them.
  - The greatest wall at the present between the believers and their beloved is the world, flesh, and devil. (1 Jn. 2:15-17)
  - The Lord keeps His eyes upon His children, and He is “shewing himself through the lattice.”

2 Chron. 16:9a “**For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of *them* whose heart is perfect toward him...”**



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

a. Volitional: to the Will – The Call to Recognize a New Lord, 2:10

Song 2:10 My beloved spake, and said unto me, **Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.**

**The Passionate Shepherd to His Love**  
BY CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE

Come live with me and be my love,  
And we will all the pleasures prove,  
That Valleys, groves, hills, and fields,  
Woods, or steepy mountain yields.

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/44675/the-passionate-shepherd-to-his-love>

- 
- The invitation in verse 10 has a two-fold application:
    1. Leave your “comfort zone” and come from behind the wall into service with the Lord for His glory.
    2. The rapture, invitation to the marriage supper of the Lamb!

Rev. 4:1 After this I looked, and, behold, a door *was* opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard *was* as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, **Come up hither**, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.



b. Logical: to the Mind – The Call to  
Receive a New Life, 2:11-13

(1) The Past, 2:11

Song 2:11 For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over  
*and* gone;

- Put the past into the past!

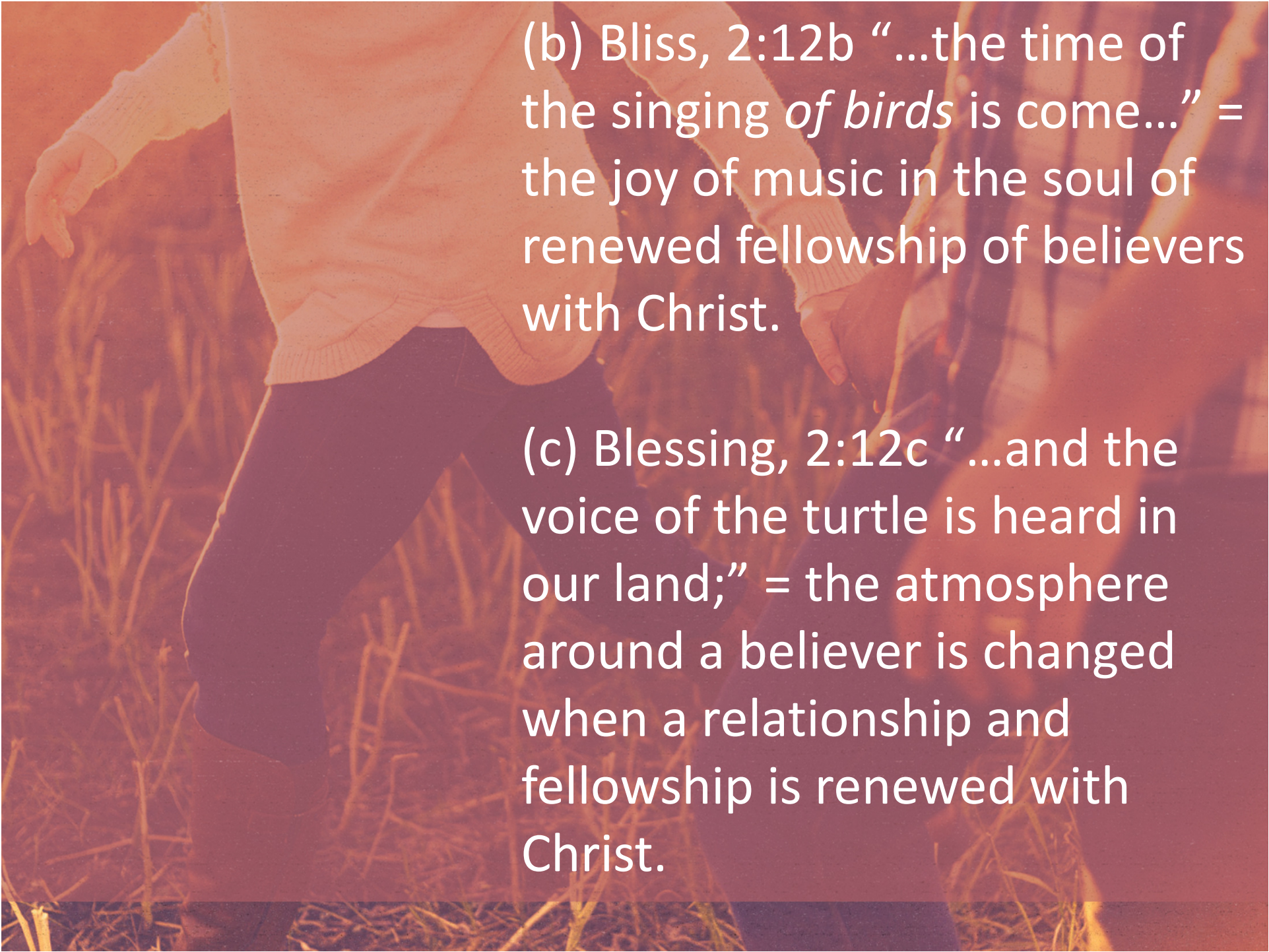
Phil. 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have  
apprehended: **but *this one thing I do, forgetting***  
***those things which are behind***, and reaching forth  
unto those things which are before,  
14 ***I press toward the mark for the prize of the high***  
***calling of God in Christ Jesus.***

- The past may become the thief of future blessings if it is not forsaken.

## (2) The Present, 2:12

Song 2:12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing *of birds* is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;

(a) Beauty, 2:12a “The flowers appear on the earth...” = the beauty of springtime joy for a new life and new beginning in Christ.

A photograph of a person wearing a white sweater and dark pants, holding hands with another person in a field of tall grass. The image has a warm, orange-red tint. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

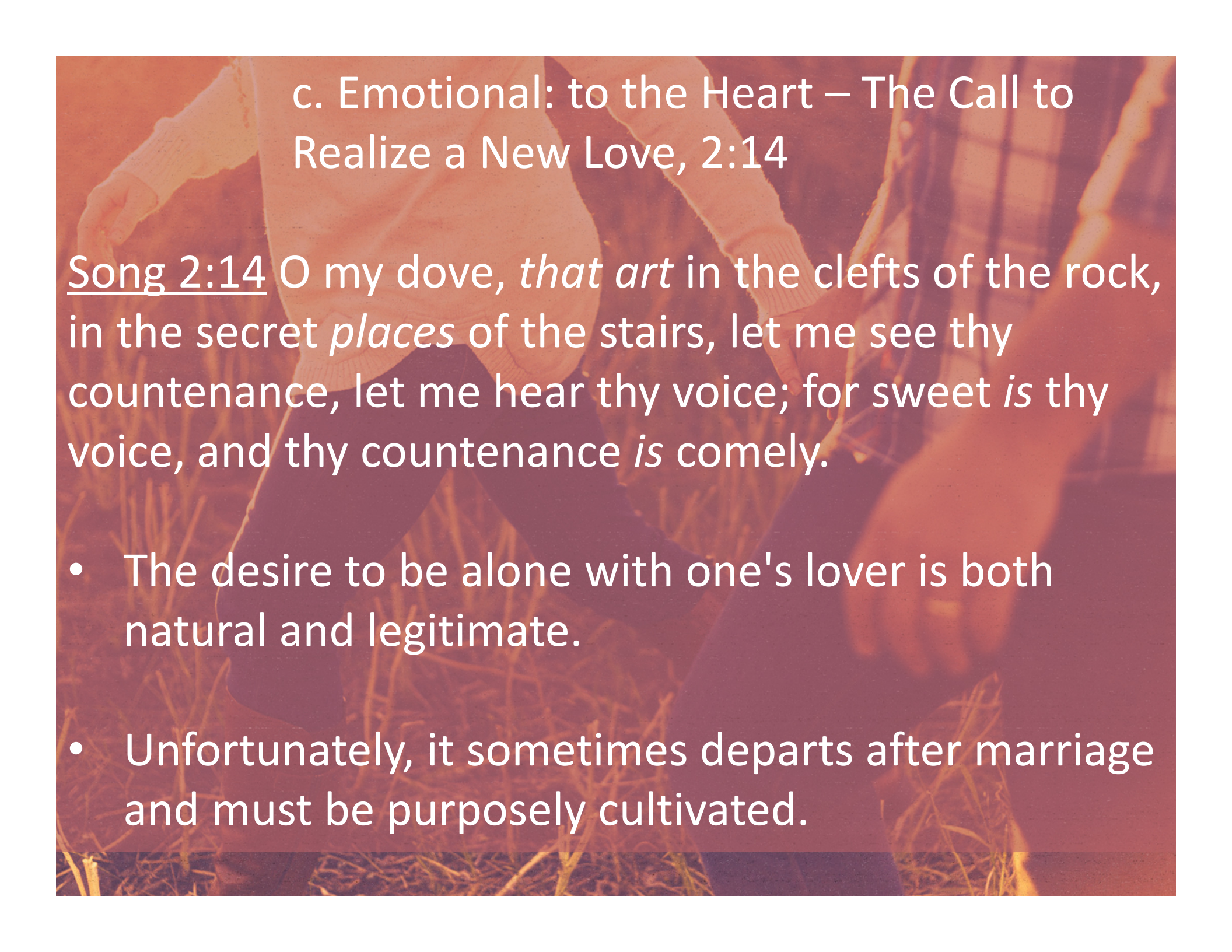
(b) Bliss, 2:12b “...the time of the singing of *birds* is come...” = the joy of music in the soul of renewed fellowship of believers with Christ.

(c) Blessing, 2:12c “...and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;” = the atmosphere around a believer is changed when a relationship and fellowship is renewed with Christ.

### (3) The Prospect, 2:13

Song 2:13 The fig tree putteth forth her green figs,  
and the vines *with* the tender grape give a *good* smell.  
**Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.**

- Verses 10-13 are bracketed with the invitation from the Beloved – “v. 10...Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away...” v. 13 “...Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.”
- In between verses 10-13 are encouraging words regarding our fellowship with Christ.

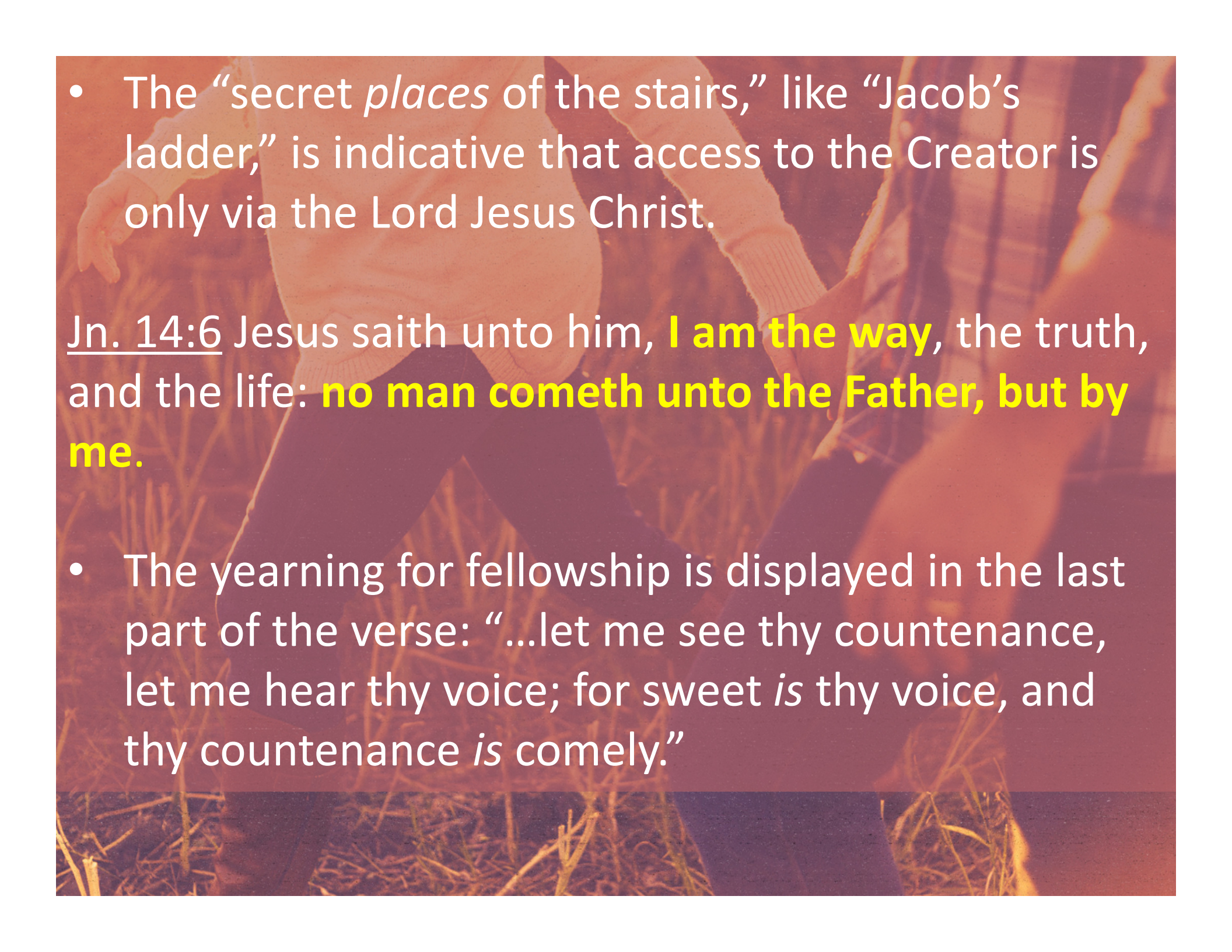
A romantic scene of a couple holding hands in a field of tall grass at sunset. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark red filter. The couple is in the center, with their hands clasped. The background shows the silhouettes of the couple and the tall grasses of the field.

c. Emotional: to the Heart – The Call to Realize a New Love, 2:14

Song 2:14 O my dove, *that art* in the clefts of the rock, in the secret *places* of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet *is* thy voice, and thy countenance *is* comely.

- The desire to be alone with one's lover is both natural and legitimate.
- Unfortunately, it sometimes departs after marriage and must be purposely cultivated.



- 
- The “secret *places* of the stairs,” like “Jacob’s ladder,” is indicative that access to the Creator is only via the Lord Jesus Christ.

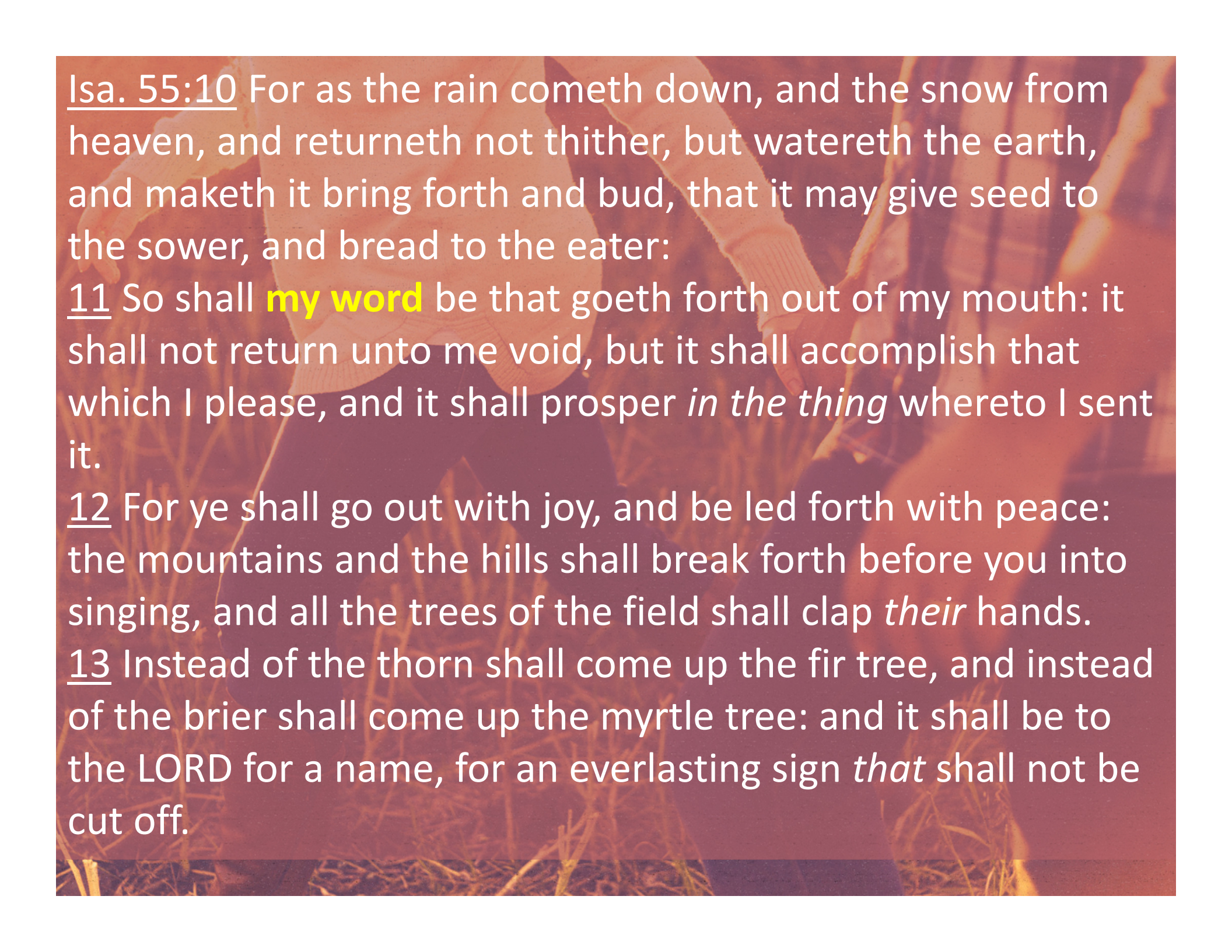
Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way**, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

- The yearning for fellowship is displayed in the last part of the verse: “...let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet *is* thy voice, and thy countenance *is* comely.”



Conclusion

Psa. 95:7 For he *is* our God; and we *are* the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. **To day if ye will hear his voice,**  
**8 Harden not your heart,** as in the provocation, *and* as *in* the day of temptation in the wilderness:



Isa. 55:10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

11 So shall **my word** be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

12 For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap *their* hands.

13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign *that* shall not be cut off.