

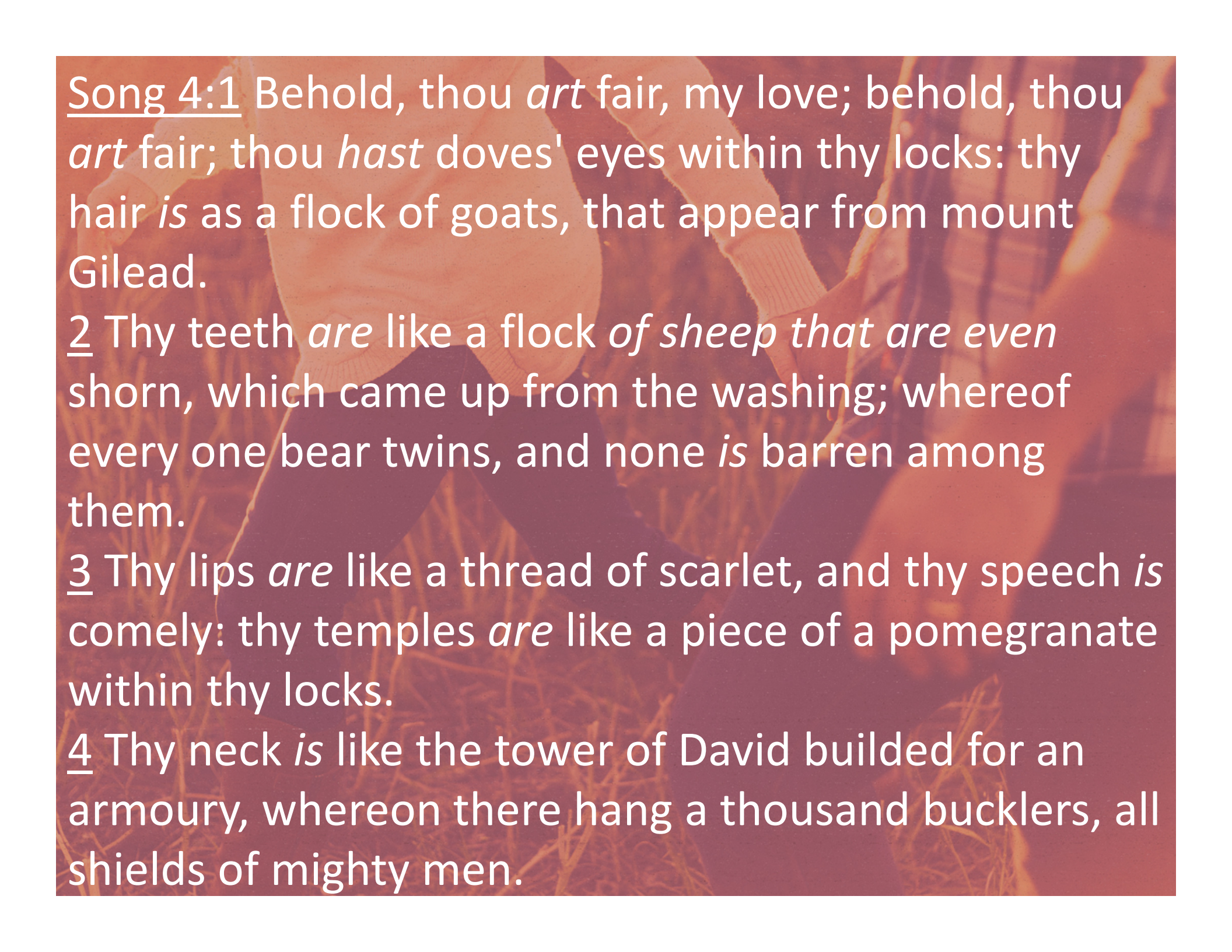


# Love Story



A STUDY OF THE SONG OF SOLOMON

4:1-7



Song 4:1 Behold, thou *art* fair, my love; behold, thou *art* fair; thou *hast* doves' eyes within thy locks: thy hair *is* as a flock of goats, that appear from mount Gilead.

2 Thy teeth *are* like a flock of sheep that are even shorn, which came up from the washing; whereof every one bear twins, and none *is* barren among them.

3 Thy lips *are* like a thread of scarlet, and thy speech *is* comely: thy temples *are* like a piece of a pomegranate within thy locks.

4 Thy neck *is* like the tower of David builded for an armoury, whereon there hang a thousand bucklers, all shields of mighty men.



5 Thy two breasts *are* like two young roes that are twins, which feed among the lilies.

6 Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, I will get me to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense.

7 Thou *art* all fair, my love; *there is* no spot in thee.



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

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

III. AN HOUR OF TENDERNESS, 1:12—2:7

IV. AN HOUR OF TRUTH, 2:8—3:5

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

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



V. AN HOUR OF TALK, 3:6-11

A. The World and its Pomp, 3:6

B. The World and its Power, 3:7-8

1. Solomon's Style, 3:7a "Behold his bed, which *is* Solomon's..."

2. Solomon's Strength, 3:7b-8

C. The World and its Prosperity, 3:9-10

1. Excellence, 3:9

2. Extravagance, 3:10a

3. Experience, 3:10b

D. The World and its Popularity, 3:11

1. Its Shallow Crowd

2. Its Shallow Crown

a. The Day of Solomon's Marriage

b. The Day of Solomon's Merriment

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 the field of grass stretching towards the horizon. The overall mood is romantic and peaceful.

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

- While we are considering this passage of Scripture detailing Solomon's description of his bride, we can also apply this as a description of the Lord Jesus Christ regarding His love for His bride:

Eph. 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even **as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;**

## VI. AN HOUR OF TOGETHERNESS, 4:1—5:1

### A. The Personal Radiance of the Shulammite, 4:1-5

#### 1. The Exclamation of the Shepherd, 4:1a “Behold, thou *art* fair, my love...”

- A wise man will express his appreciation for the beauty of his bride:
  - With a strong sense of sincerity – “Behold, thou *art* fair...”
  - With a strong sense of personal pride and passion – “...my love...”



Song 6:4 **Thou art beautiful, O my love**, as Tirzah,  
comely as Jerusalem, terrible as *an army* with  
banners.

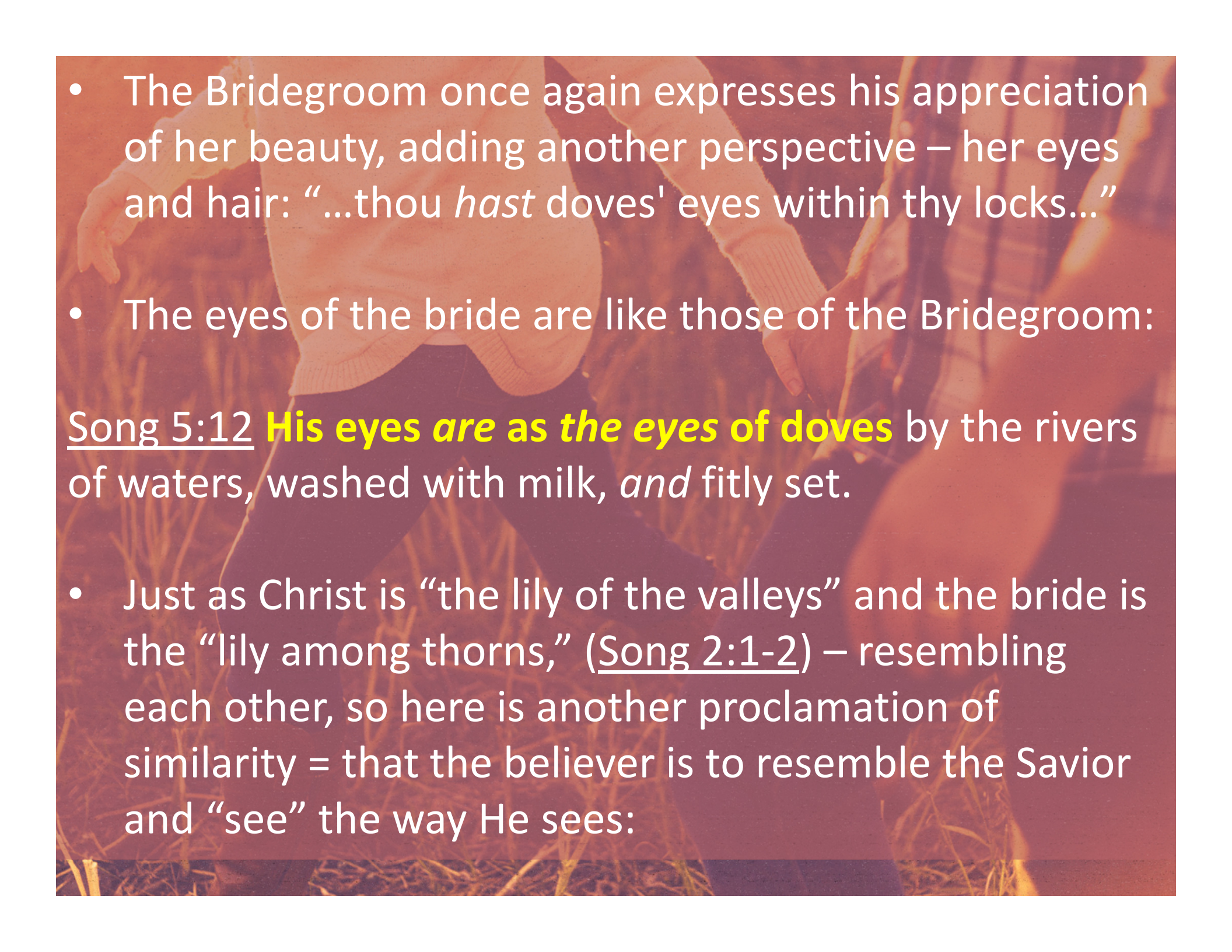
Psa 45:11 **So shall the king greatly desire thy beauty:**  
for he *is* thy Lord; and worship thou him.

## 2. The Explanation of the Shepherd, 4:1b-5

### a. The Shulammite's Mystery, 4:1b

“...behold, thou *art* fair; thou *hast* doves'  
eyes within thy locks...”



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- The Bridegroom once again expresses his appreciation of her beauty, adding another perspective – her eyes and hair: “...thou *hast* doves' eyes within thy locks...”
  - The eyes of the bride are like those of the Bridegroom:

Song 5:12 **His eyes are as the eyes of doves** by the rivers of waters, washed with milk, *and* fitly set.

- Just as Christ is “the lily of the valleys” and the bride is the “lily among thorns,” (Song 2:1-2) – resembling each other, so here is another proclamation of similarity = that the believer is to resemble the Savior and “see” the way He sees:



Rom. 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate **to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

- The eyes represents spiritual perception, as well as a vision for the lost.

b. The Shulammite's Majesty, 4:1c "...thy hair *is* as a flock of goats, that appear from mount Gilead."

- From a distance, a herd of black goats descending from the mountains at dusk was very attractive and reminded Solomon of his beloved's long black locks rippling and tumbling freely.



# The Musician's Tale; The Saga of King Olaf

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

"Not ten yoke of oxen  
Have the power to draw us  
Like a woman's hair!

[https://www.hwlongfellow.org/poems\\_poem.php?pid=2037](https://www.hwlongfellow.org/poems_poem.php?pid=2037)

Song 5:11 His head *is as* the most fine gold, **his locks are bushy, and black as a raven.**

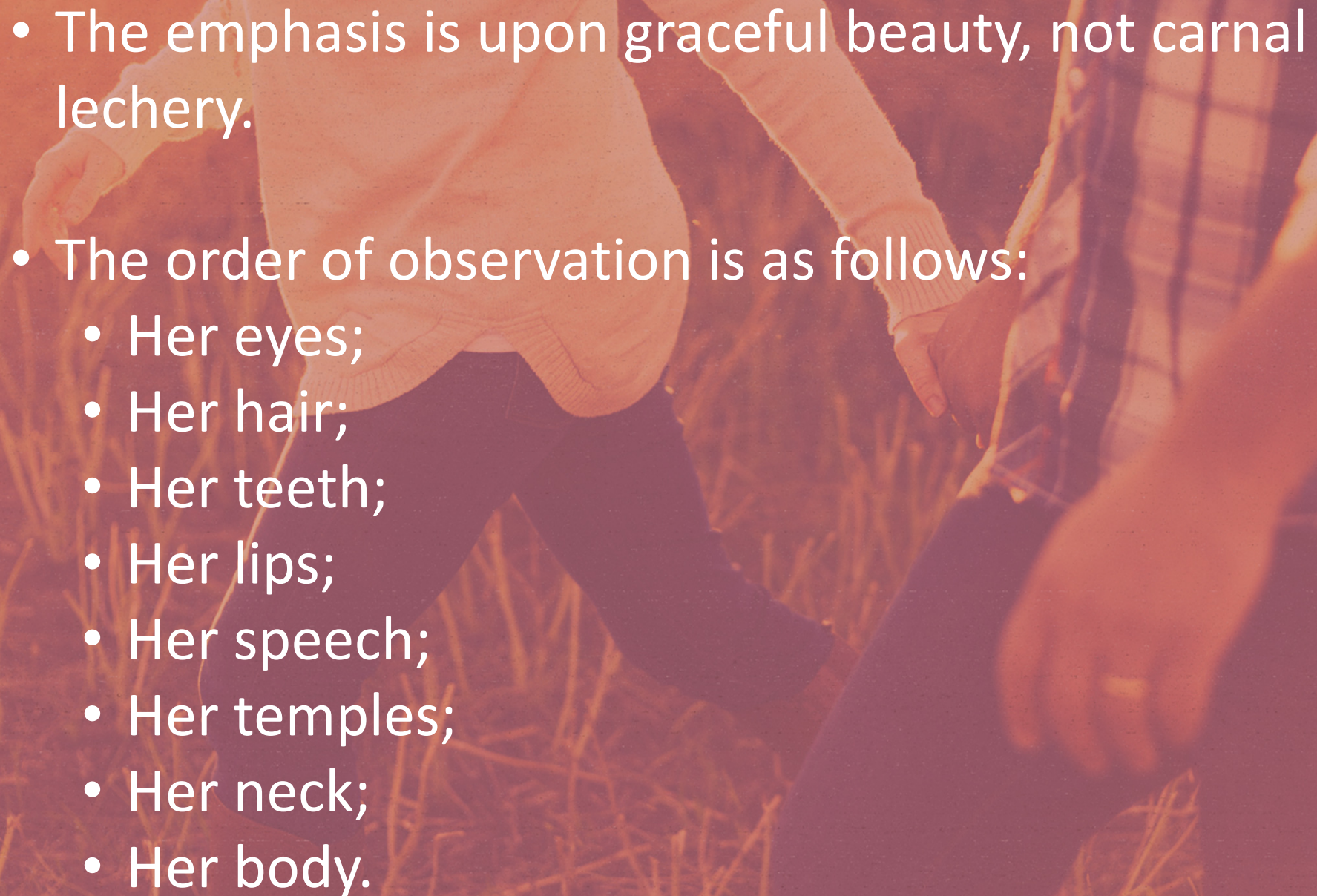
- Once again, the bride resembles the Bridegroom regarding characteristics of hair and color – believers are to resemble Christ!

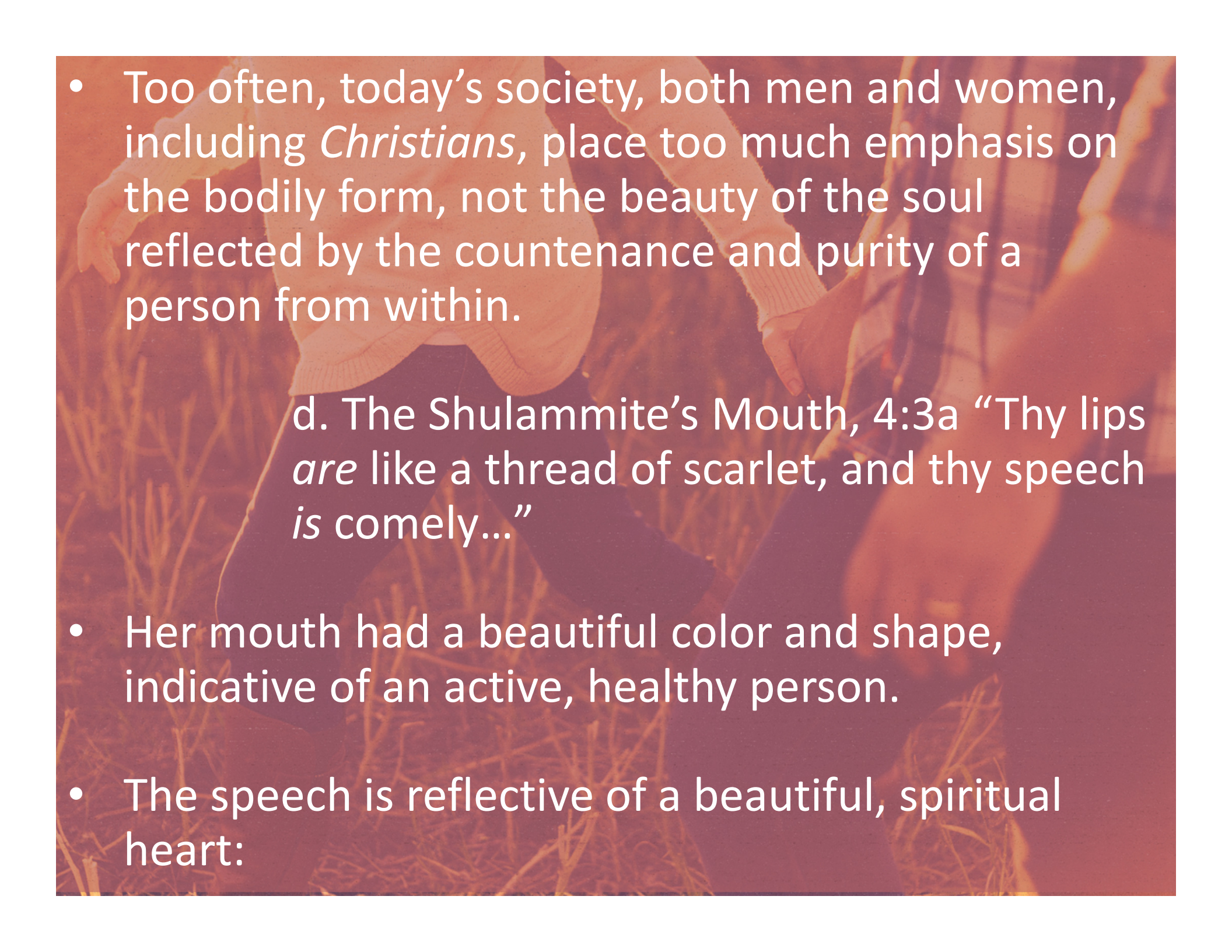
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- As believers spend more time of fellowship with the Savior, the characteristics of the Savior will “rub off” on them.

c. The Shulammite’s Magnificence, 4:2

Song 4:2 Thy teeth *are* like a flock of sheep that are even shorn, which came up from the washing; whereof every one bear twins, and none *is* barren among them.

- The Bridegroom’s description of his bride begins with the face, not her bodily form.

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- The emphasis is upon graceful beauty, not carnal lechery.
  - The order of observation is as follows:
    - Her eyes;
    - Her hair;
    - Her teeth;
    - Her lips;
    - Her speech;
    - Her temples;
    - Her neck;
    - Her body.

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- Too often, today's society, both men and women, including *Christians*, place too much emphasis on the bodily form, not the beauty of the soul reflected by the countenance and purity of a person from within.

d. The Shulammite's Mouth, 4:3a "Thy lips *are* like a thread of scarlet, and thy speech *is* comely..."

- Her mouth had a beautiful color and shape, indicative of an active, healthy person.
- The speech is reflective of a beautiful, spiritual heart:



Prov. 31:26 **She openeth her mouth with wisdom;**  
and **in her tongue is the law of kindness.**

- A person's heart is revealed by the disclosure of the mouth:

Mt. 15:18 But **those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart;** and they defile the man.

Luke 6:45 A good man **out of the good treasure of his heart** bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man **out of the evil treasure of his heart** bringeth forth that which is evil: **for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.**



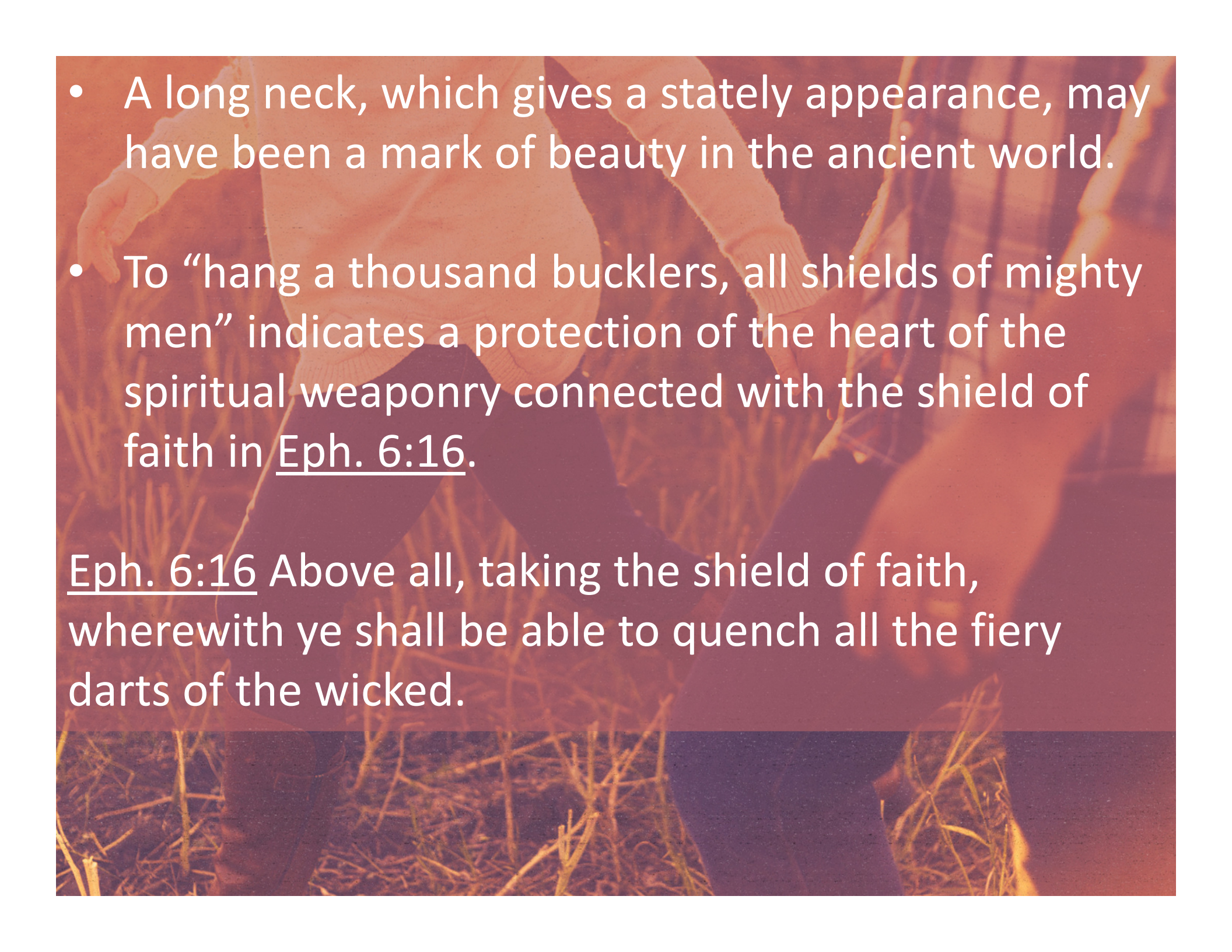
e. The Shulammite's Modesty, 4:3b "...thy temples *are* like a piece of a pomegranate within thy locks."

- Her temples were rosy with robust health, like the outside of a pomegranate.

f. The Shulammite's Might, 4:4

Song 4:4 Thy neck *is* like the tower of David builded for an armoury, whereon there hang a thousand bucklers, all shields of mighty men.



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- A long neck, which gives a stately appearance, may have been a mark of beauty in the ancient world.
  - To “hang a thousand bucklers, all shields of mighty men” indicates a protection of the heart of the spiritual weaponry connected with the shield of faith in Eph. 6:16.

Eph. 6:16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.



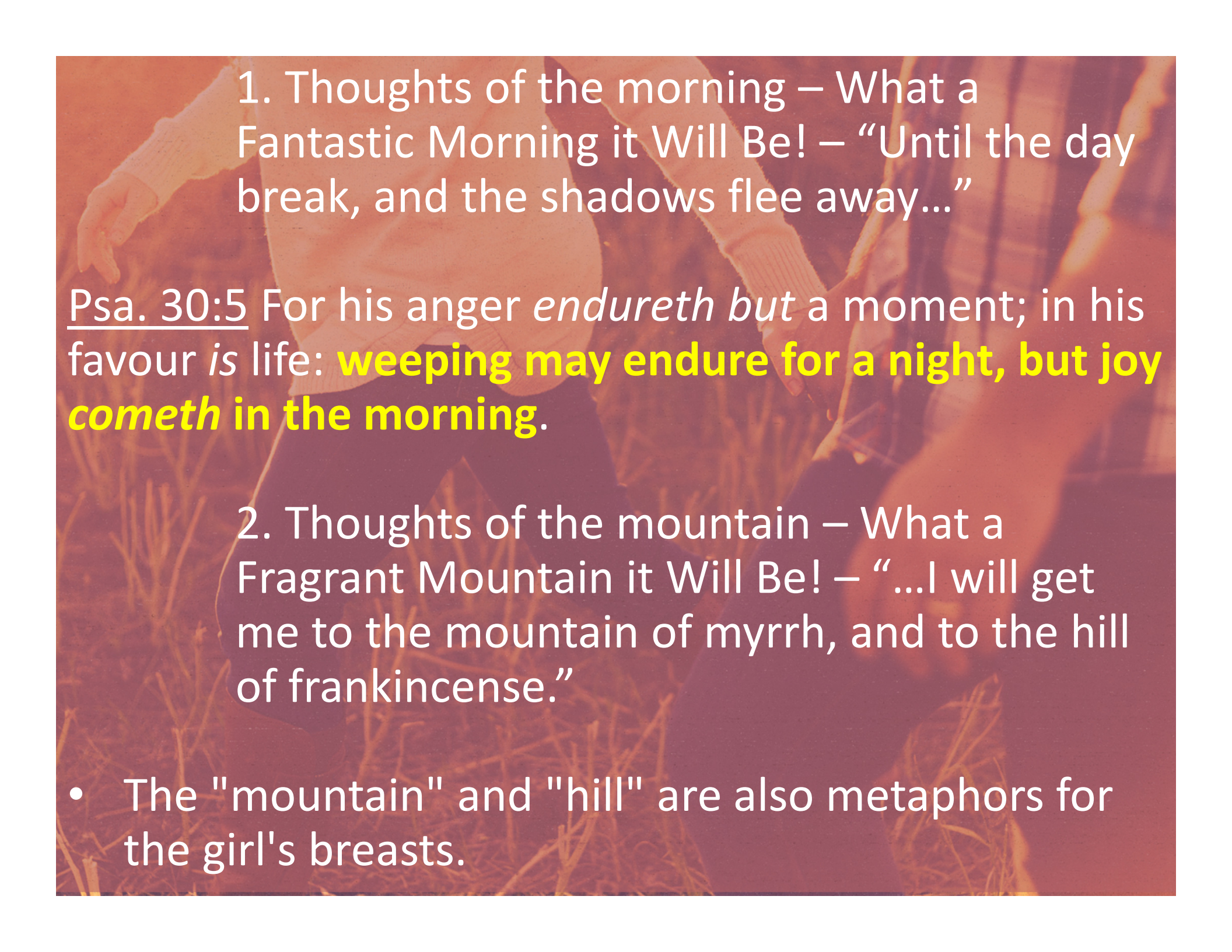
g. The Shulammitte's Maturity, 4:5

Song 4:5 Thy two breasts *are* like two young roes that are twins, which feed among the lilies.

- Fawns are soft and lovable...pictures of “faith” and “love” feeding “among the lilies” of fellowship with Christ and His bride, represented by a spiritual church.

B. The Passionate Response of the Shulammitte, 4:6

Song 4:6 Until the day break, and the shadows flee away, I will get me to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense.



1. Thoughts of the morning – What a Fantastic Morning it Will Be! – “Until the day break, and the shadows flee away...”

Psa. 30:5 For his anger *endureth but* a moment; in his favour *is* life: **weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.**

2. Thoughts of the mountain – What a Fragrant Mountain it Will Be! – “...I will get me to the mountain of myrrh, and to the hill of frankincense.”

- The "mountain" and "hill" are also metaphors for the girl's breasts.

- Myrrh and frankincense were expensive perfumes, so Solomon may have meant his wife's breasts were precious to him as well as attractive.

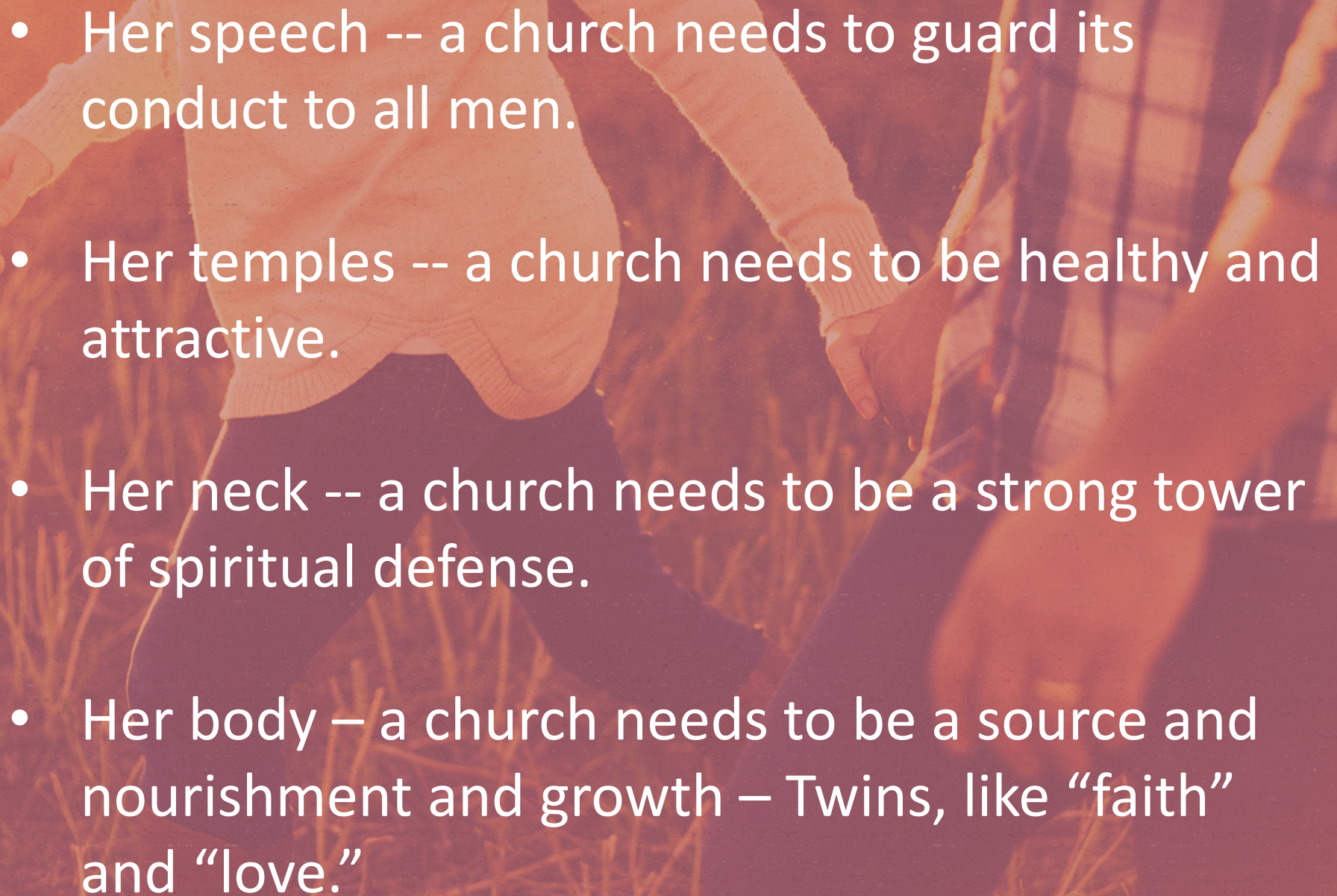
Prov. 5:18 Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth.

19 *Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe*; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and **be thou ravished always with her love.**



## Summary

- The order of observation is as follows:
  - Her eyes -- a church needs to have perception and a vision for the lost.
  - Her hair -- a church needs to be consecrated and submissive to the Savior.
  - Her teeth -- a church needs to feed upon strong meat.
  - Her lips -- a church needs to be a “scarlet” witness for the Lord.

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- Her speech -- a church needs to guard its conduct to all men.
  - Her temples -- a church needs to be healthy and attractive.
  - Her neck -- a church needs to be a strong tower of spiritual defense.
  - Her body – a church needs to be a source and nourishment and growth – Twins, like “faith” and “love.”



# An Essay on Criticism

BY ALEXANDER POPE

In wit, as nature, what affects our hearts  
Is not th' exactness of peculiar parts;  
'Tis not a lip, or eye, we beauty call,  
But the joint force and full result of all.

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/articles/69379/an-essay-on-criticism>

## Conclusion

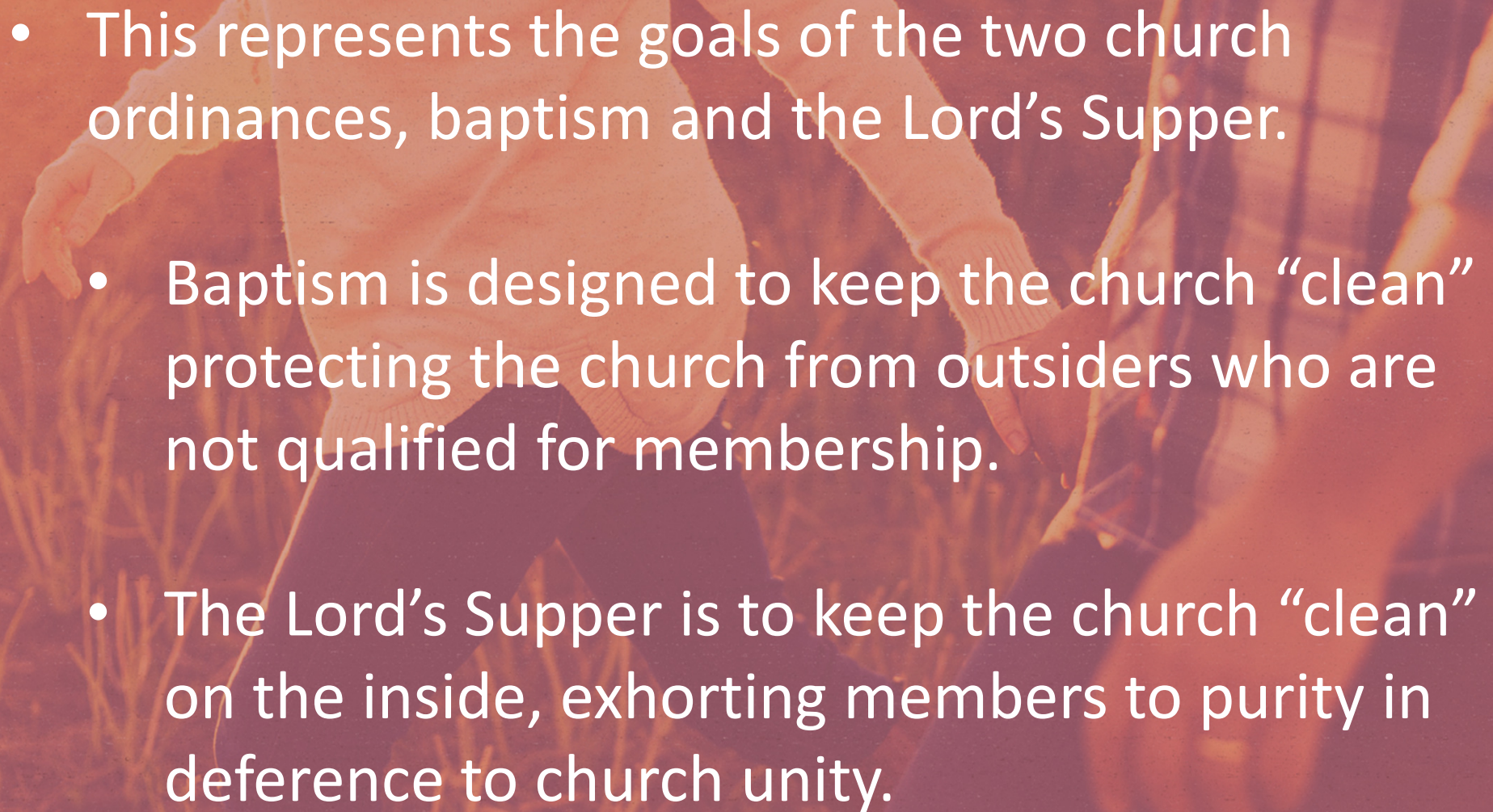
Song 4:7 Thou *art* all fair, my love; *there is* no spot in thee.

Eph. 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as **Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;**

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might **present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.**



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- This represents the goals of the two church ordinances, baptism and the Lord's Supper.
  - Baptism is designed to keep the church “clean” protecting the church from outsiders who are not qualified for membership.
  - The Lord's Supper is to keep the church “clean” on the inside, exhorting members to purity in deference to church unity.



1 Cor. 11:28 But let a man **examine himself**, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup.

2 Cor. 13:5 **Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith**; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?