

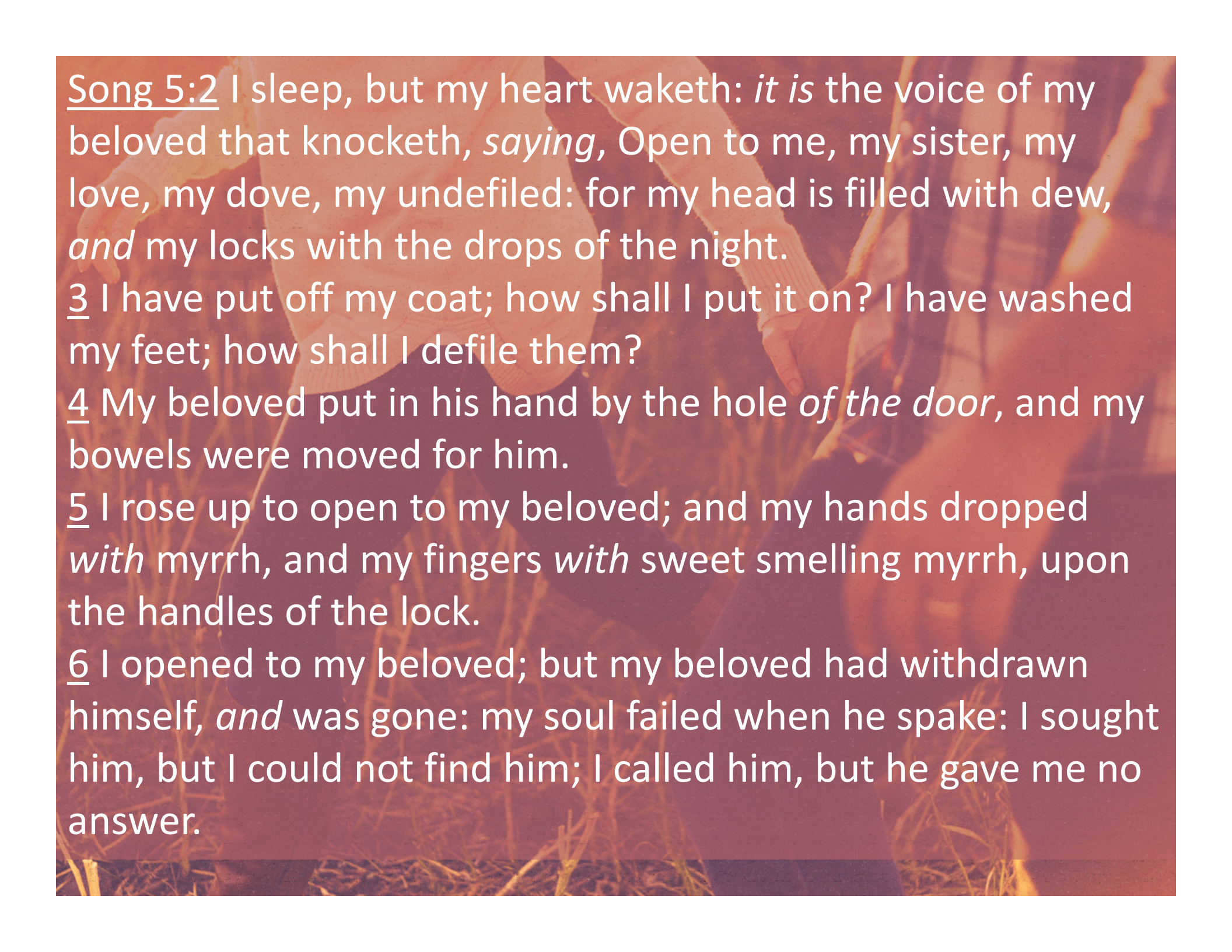
A photograph of a couple walking through a field of tall grass at sunset. The woman is wearing a light-colored sweater and dark pants, and the man is wearing a plaid shirt and dark pants. They are holding hands and walking away from the camera. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light.

Love Story



A STUDY OF THE SONG OF SOLOMON

5:2-6

A romantic couple is shown in a field at night. The man is wearing a white sweater and the woman is wearing a plaid shirt. They are holding hands and looking at each other. The background is a dark field with some grass visible. The overall mood is intimate and romantic.

Song 5:2 I sleep, but my heart waketh: *it is* the voice of my beloved that knocketh, *saying*, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, *and* my locks with the drops of the night.

3 I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them?

4 My beloved put in his hand by the hole *of the door*, and my bowels were moved for him.

5 I rose up to open to my beloved; and my hands dropped *with* myrrh, and my fingers *with* sweet smelling myrrh, upon the handles of the lock.

6 I opened to my beloved; but my beloved had withdrawn himself, *and* was gone: my soul failed when he spake: I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer.



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

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

VI. AN HOUR OF TOGETHERNESS, 4:1—5:1

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

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

C. The Pilgrim Responsibility of the Shulammitte,
4:7-15

A romantic couple is shown from the waist down, standing in a field of tall, dry grass. The woman on the left is wearing a light-colored sweater and dark pants, and the man on the right is wearing a plaid shirt and dark pants. They are holding hands, and the scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of a sunset or sunrise. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape.

D. The Promised Rapture of the Shulammite, 4:16-5:1

1. The Shulammite's Plea, 4:16

a. Her Constant Desire

b. Her Consummate Desire

2. The Shepherd's Pledge, 5:1

a. His Great Expectation

i. Marital Bliss

ii. Millennial Bliss

b. His Great Exaltation

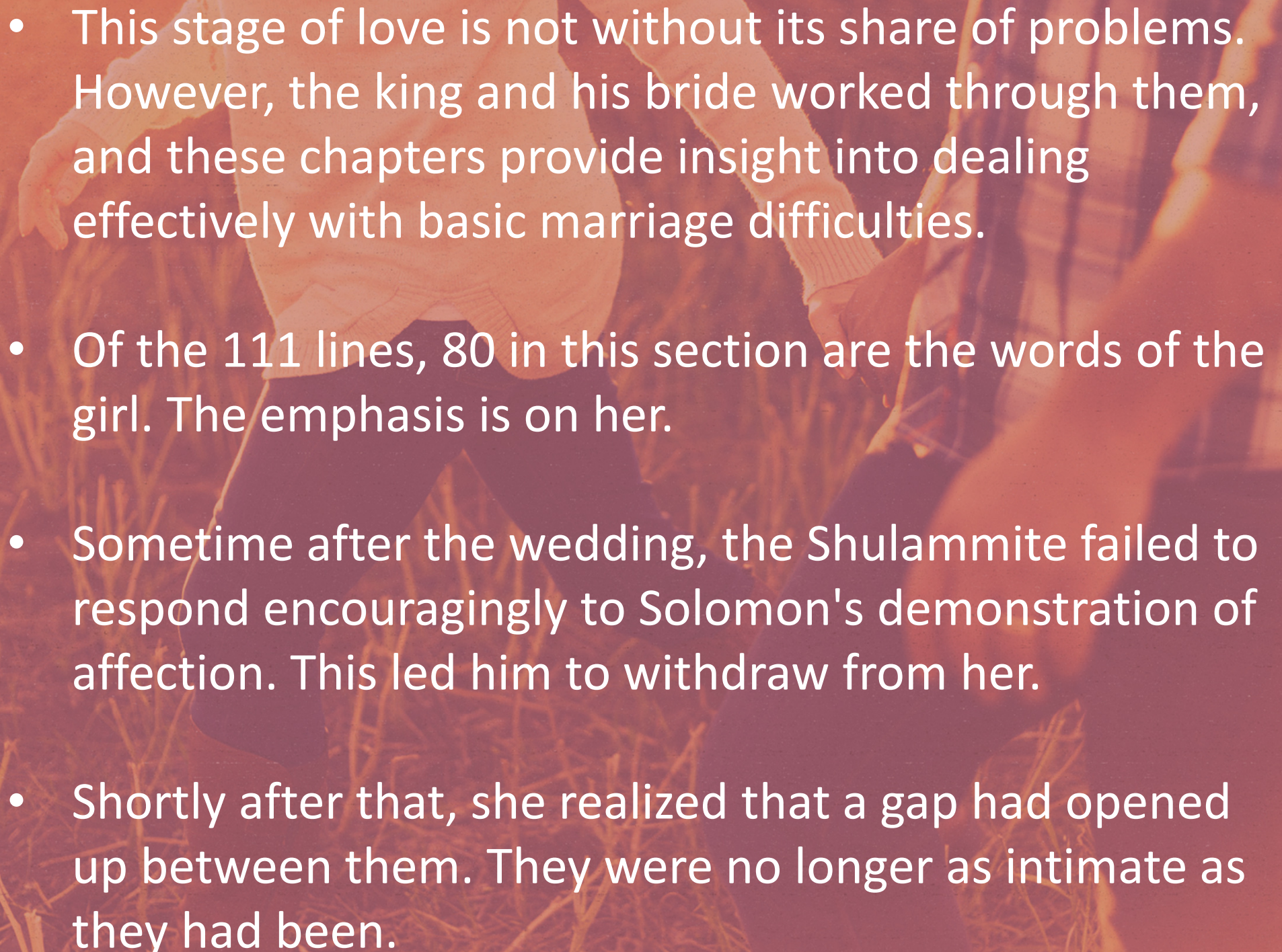
A photograph of a couple holding hands in a field of tall grass at sunset. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a soft glow. The couple is in the foreground, their hands clasped together. The background shows a vast field of tall grasses, some of which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

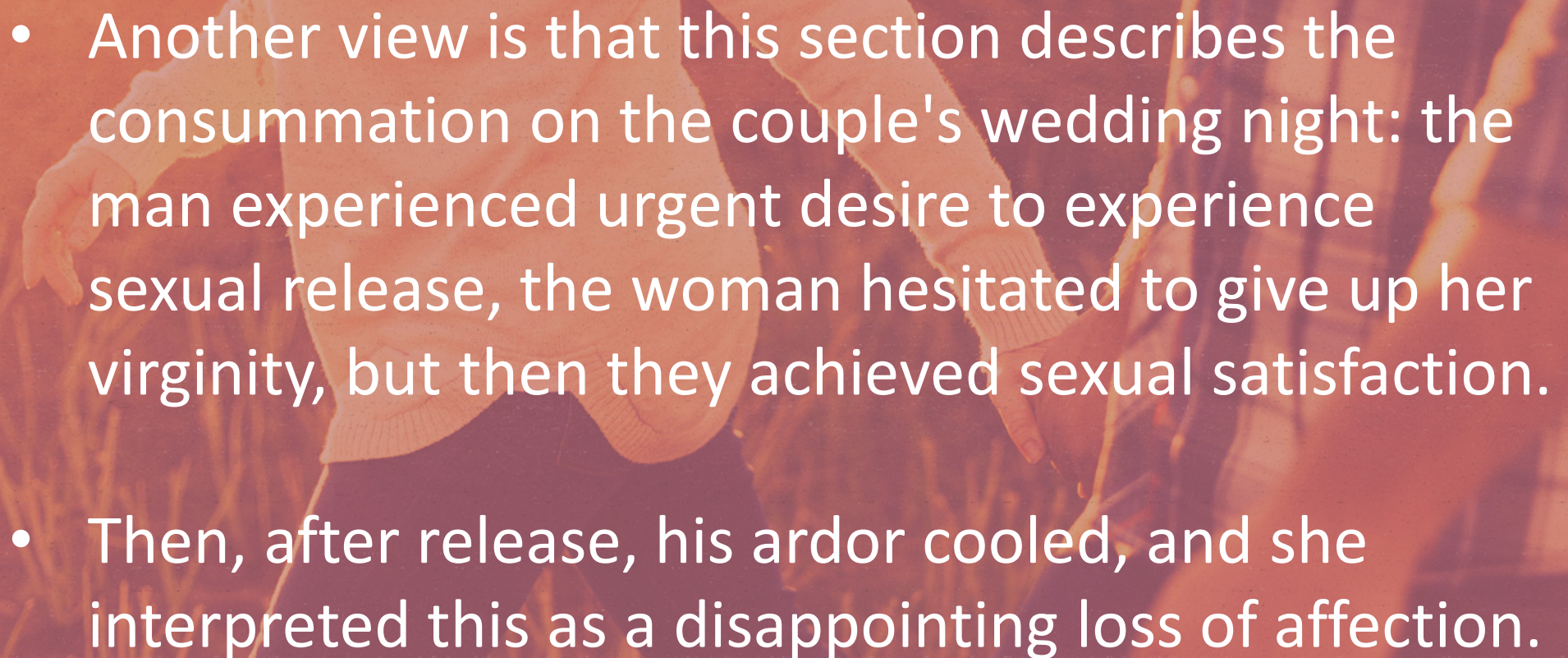
Tonight we continue the exegesis of this wonderful book as we return to the beginning of chapter five, to consider...

VII. AN HOUR OF TESTIMONY, 5:2—6:3

A. The Dream of the Beloved, 5:2-9

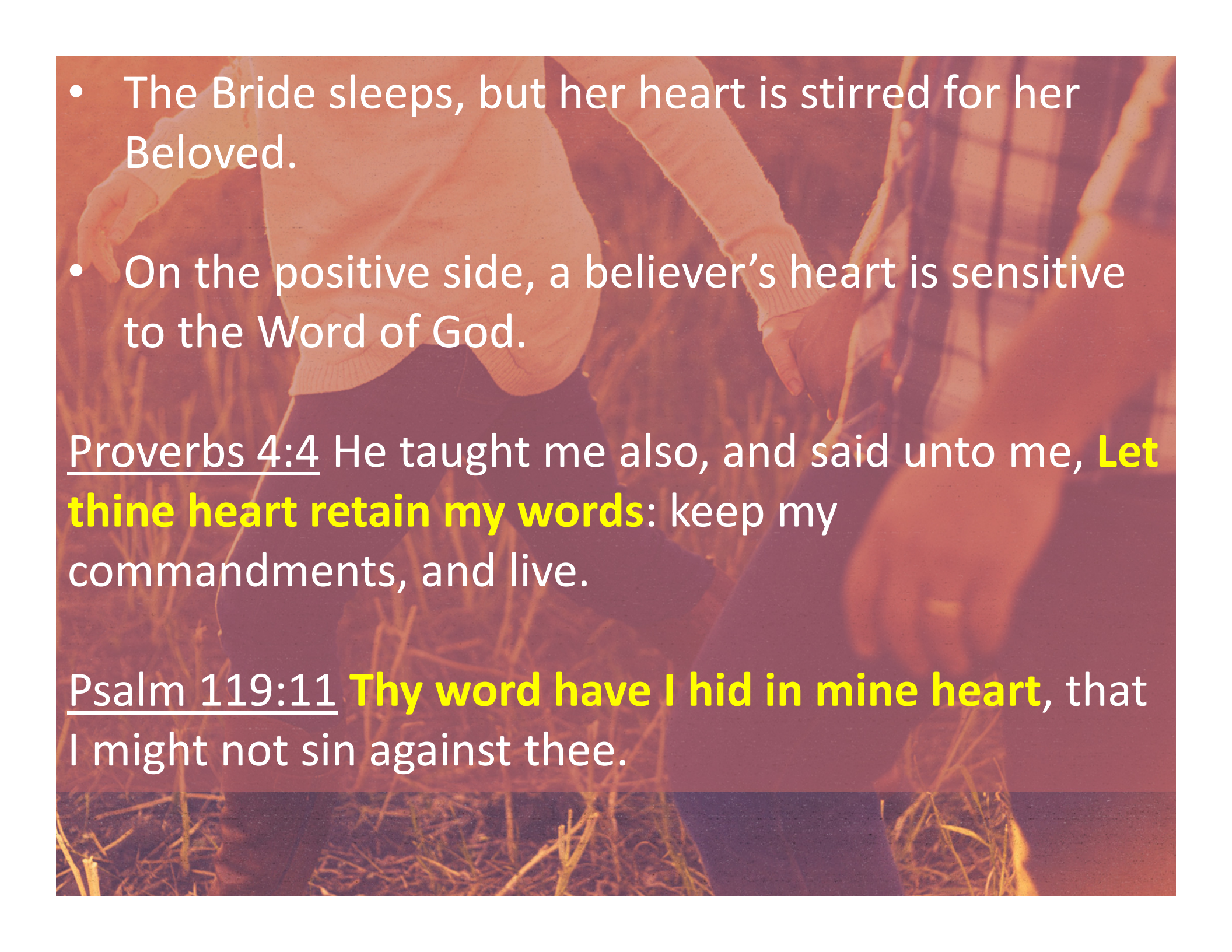
- Heading into the remainder of the book, the married love of Solomon and the Shulammite is in view.

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- This stage of love is not without its share of problems. However, the king and his bride worked through them, and these chapters provide insight into dealing effectively with basic marriage difficulties.
 - Of the 111 lines, 80 in this section are the words of the girl. The emphasis is on her.
 - Sometime after the wedding, the Shulammite failed to respond encouragingly to Solomon's demonstration of affection. This led him to withdraw from her.
 - Shortly after that, she realized that a gap had opened up between them. They were no longer as intimate as they had been.

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- Another view is that this section describes the consummation on the couple's wedding night: the man experienced urgent desire to experience sexual release, the woman hesitated to give up her virginity, but then they achieved sexual satisfaction.
 - Then, after release, his ardor cooled, and she interpreted this as a disappointing loss of affection.

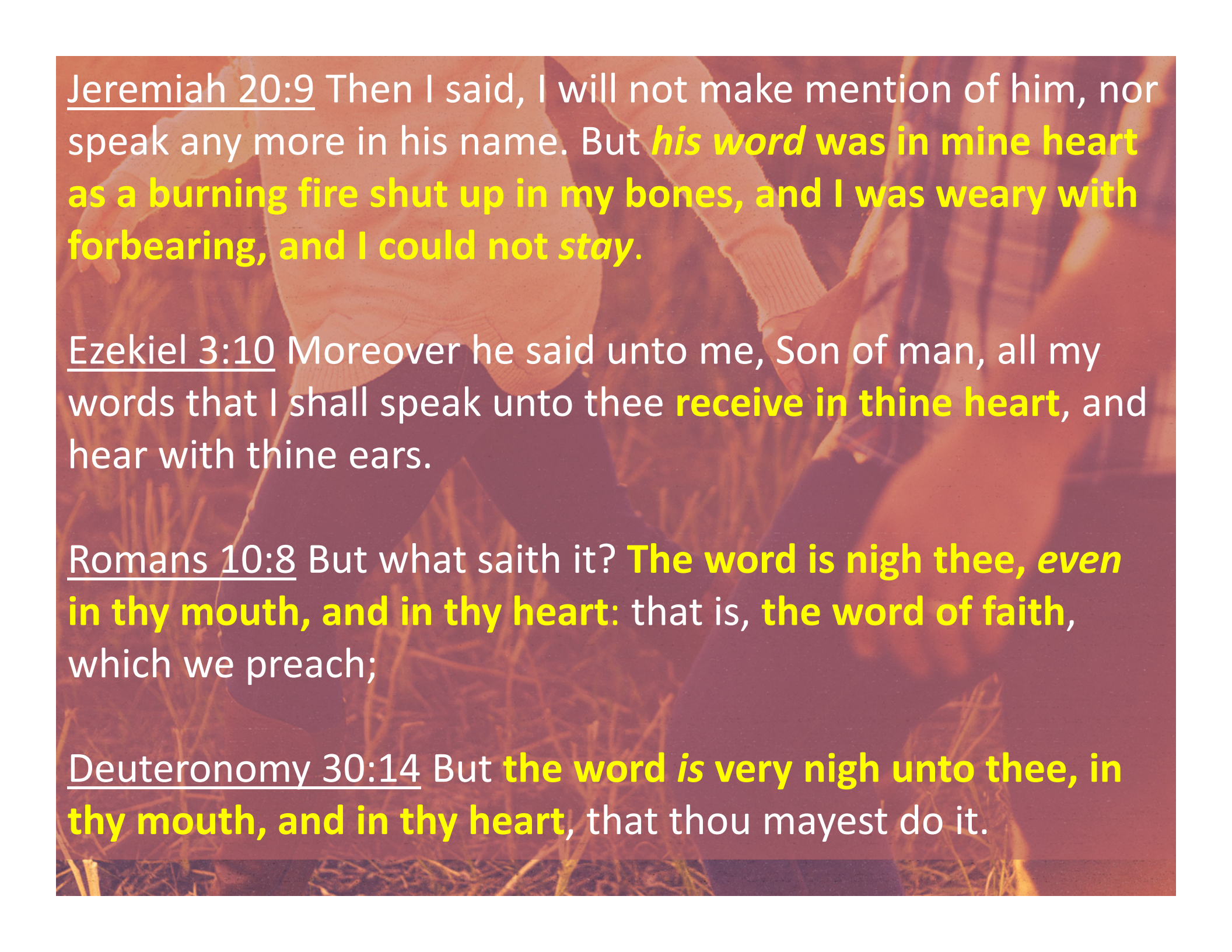
1. It Was a Dream of Excitement, 5:2

a. The Visitor Who Came, 5:2a **“I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice** of my beloved that knocketh...”

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- 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 seen from the waist down, with their hands clasped together in the center. The woman is on the left, wearing a light-colored sweater, and the man is on the right, wearing a plaid shirt. The background is a field of tall, dry grasses that are slightly out of focus, emphasizing the couple's hands and the overall romantic atmosphere.
- The Bride sleeps, but her heart is stirred for her Beloved.
 - On the positive side, a believer's heart is sensitive to the Word of God.

Proverbs 4:4 He taught me also, and said unto me, **Let thine heart retain my words**: keep my commandments, and live.

Psalms 119:11 **Thy word have I hid in mine heart**, that I might not sin against thee.



Jeremiah 20:9 Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But **his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.**

Ezekiel 3:10 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee **receive in thine heart**, and hear with thine ears.

Romans 10:8 But what saith it? **The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart:** that is, **the word of faith**, which we preach;

Deuteronomy 30:14 But **the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart**, that thou mayest do it.

- On the negative side, a believer must be careful to hear AND NOT SLEEP:

Matthew 26:36 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and **began to be sorrowful and very heavy.**

38 Then saith he unto them, **My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.**

39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou *wilt*.

40 And **he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep**, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

41 **Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.**

42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

43 And **he came and found them asleep again**: for their eyes were heavy.

44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

45 Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take *your* rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

46 Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.

- Believers must stay vigilant and diligent in the work of the Lord.

Romans 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.

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

6 Therefore **let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.**

7 For **they that sleep sleep in the night**; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But **let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love**; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation.

- The Bride was lethargic, yet heard and identified her Beloved's voice.

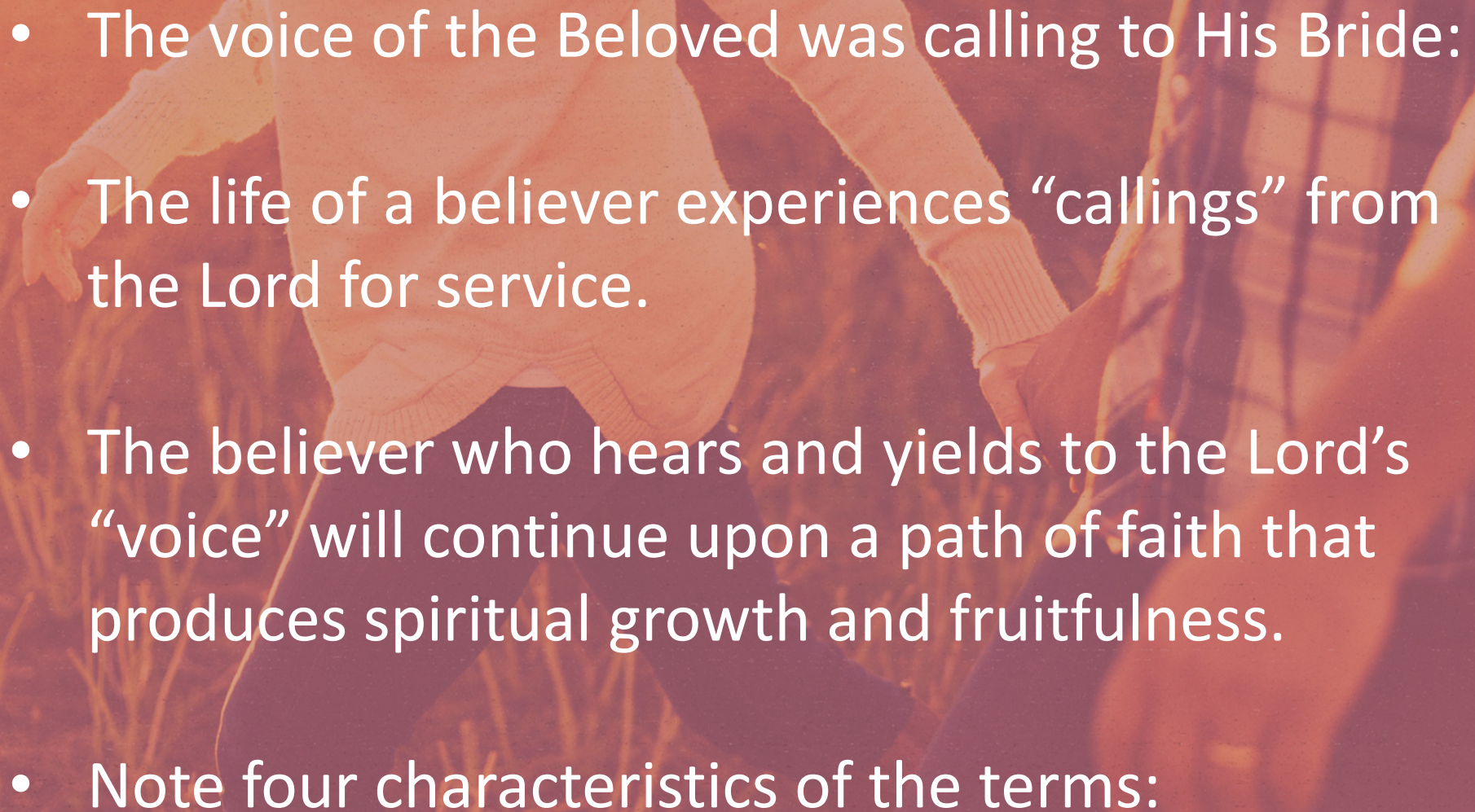
John 10:27 **My sheep hear my voice**, and I know them, and they follow me:

b. The Voice Who Called, 5:2b

(1) A Voice Filled with Passion –
“...*saying*, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled...”



<http://photonshouse.com/photo/01/018807a9f0eabdf91f3aad98d6ce647.jpg>

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- A photograph of a couple holding hands in a field of tall grass at sunset. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden-orange light, creating a romantic and serene atmosphere. The couple is seen from the waist down, with their hands clasped together in the center. The background is a soft-focus field of tall grasses, and the overall color palette is dominated by warm, earthy tones.
- The voice of the Beloved was calling to His Bride:
 - The life of a believer experiences “callings” from the Lord for service.
 - The believer who hears and yields to the Lord’s “voice” will continue upon a path of faith that produces spiritual growth and fruitfulness.
 - Note four characteristics of the terms:

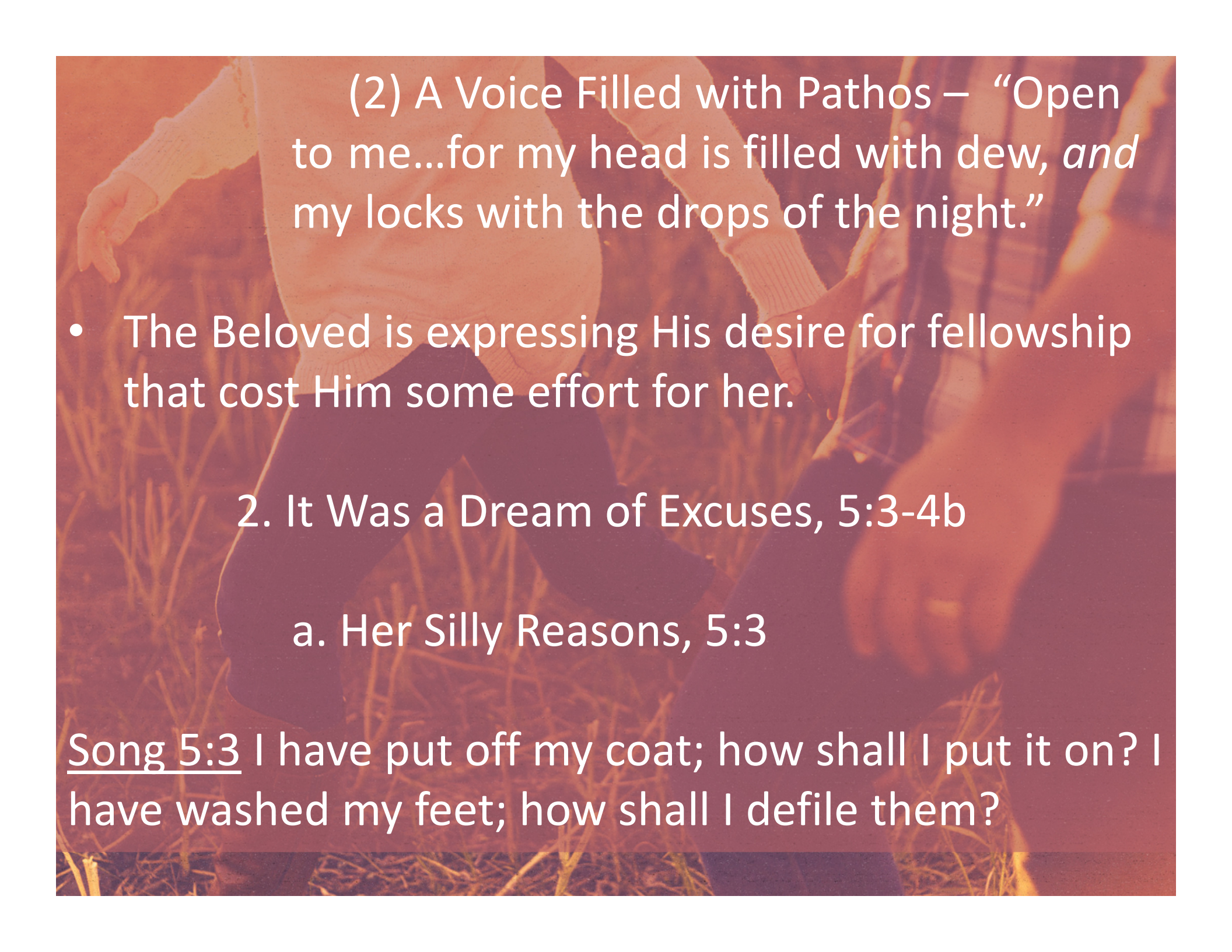


(a) Its Propriety – his “sister” = closeness as a family.

(b) Its Passion – his “love” = intimacy as a mate.

(c) Its Prospect – his “dove” = endearment as an admirer.

(d) Its Purity – his “undefiled” = respect and appreciation of character.



(2) A Voice Filled with Pathos – “Open to me...for my head is filled with dew, *and* my locks with the drops of the night.”

- The Beloved is expressing His desire for fellowship that cost Him some effort for her.

2. It Was a Dream of Excuses, 5:3-4b

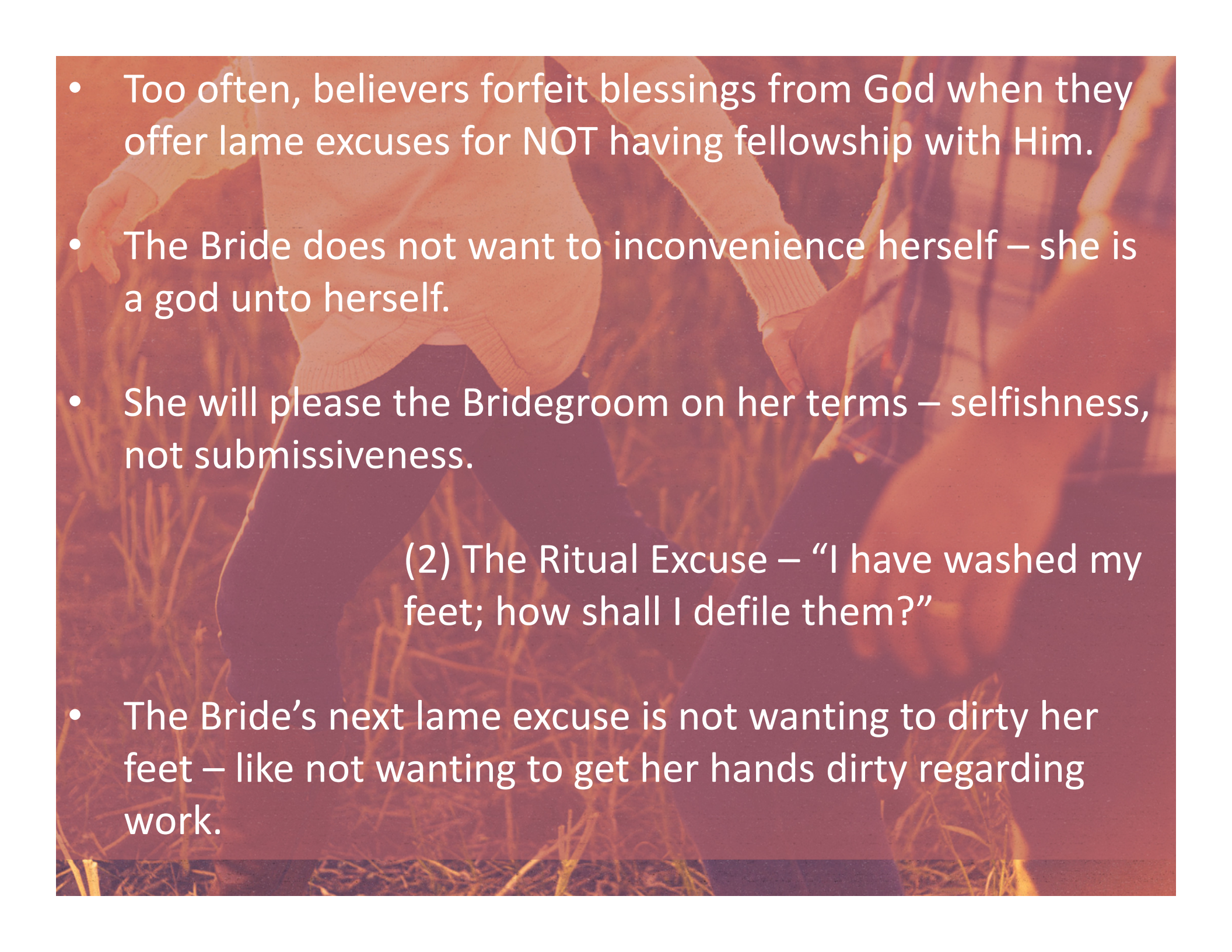
a. Her Silly Reasons, 5:3

Song 5:3 I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them?

A photograph of two people walking through a field of tall, dry grass. The person on the left is wearing a white sweater and dark pants, and the person on the right is wearing a plaid shirt and dark pants. They are holding hands. The image has a warm, orange-red tint.

(1) The Relaxation Excuse – “I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on?”

- Is the Bride feigning lack of interest?
- She gave a weak excuse: she had already gotten ready for bed (and may have had a headache!).
- When he tried to open her door but found it locked, he gave up and went away.

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- Too often, believers forfeit blessings from God when they offer lame excuses for NOT having fellowship with Him.
 - The Bride does not want to inconvenience herself – she is a god unto herself.
 - She will please the Bridegroom on her terms – selfishness, not submissiveness.

(2) The Ritual Excuse – “I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them?”

- The Bride’s next lame excuse is not wanting to dirty her feet – like not wanting to get her hands dirty regarding work.

- These two excuses are examples of lack of discipline in not putting on the armor of God, and not being a faithful witness for Christ.

Isaiah 52:7 **How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings**, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

Romans 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, **How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!**

Luke 14:21 So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, **Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.**

22 And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.

23 And the lord said unto the servant, **Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled.**

b. Her Sad Reward, 5:4a “My beloved put in his hand by the hole *of the door...*”

- The Beloved is the initiator for fellowship but awaits a response.

Revelation 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: **if any man hear my voice, and open the door,** I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

c. Her Swift Remorse, 5:4b “...and my bowels were moved for him.”

- The Bride loved her Beloved, but loved herself more, delaying in answering Him.



3. It Was a Dream of Exercise, 5:5-7

a. She Decided, 5:5

Song 5:5 I rose up to open to my beloved; and my hands dropped *with* myrrh, and my fingers *with* sweet smelling myrrh, upon the handles of the lock.

- After delaying, she decided to respond, on her terms, to the call of the Beloved.
- When she went to the door, she sensed His presence had been there.

b. What She Discovered, 5:6

Song 5:6 I opened to my beloved; but my beloved had withdrawn himself, *and* was gone: my soul failed when he spake: I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer.

(1) There was Disappointment –
“...my beloved...was gone...”

- The time of fellowship and fruitfulness is according to the Bridegroom’s schedule, not the Bride’s. She missed Him.



(2) There was Dismay – “...my soul failed...”

- Broken fellowship due to untimely action should produce the sense of lost opportunity.
- The Bride experienced remorse and confessed her loss.

James 4:17 Therefore **to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth *it* not, to him it is sin.**

Proverbs 28:13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: **but whoso confesseth and forsaketh *them* shall have mercy.**



John 13:17 If ye know these things, **happy are ye if ye do them.**

(3) There was Desperation – “...I sought him, but could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer.”

2 Corinthians 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: **behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.**)

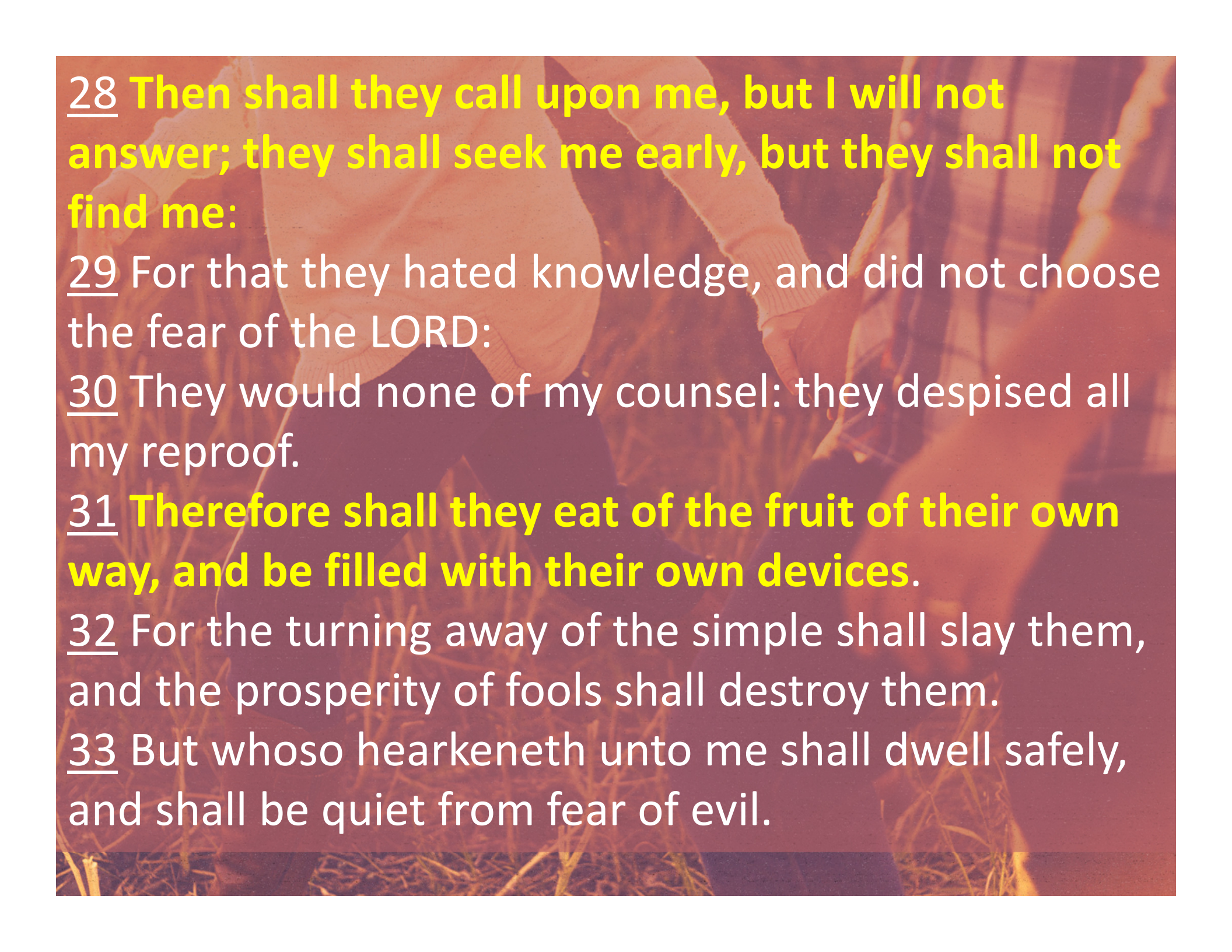
Proverbs 27:1 Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

Isaiah 55:6 **Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:**

Conclusion

John 6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and **him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.**

Proverbs 1:24 **Because I have called, and ye refused;** I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;
25 But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:
26 I **also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;**
27 When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.



28 Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

29 For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

30 They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

31 Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

32 For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

33 But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.