

Love's Expressions

In the love song of the Bible, the Song of Songs, also known as the Song of Solomon, are three expressions nestled among the many descriptions of the shepherd and maid. I think there is a truth to be seen in the progression of love's expression.

First, the maid speaks from a position of personal claim of her beloved:

Song of Solomon 2:16 - *"My beloved is mine, and I am his: he feedeth among the lilies."*

- ❖ Her first feeling is "He is mine" and "I am his."
- ❖ She has the primary feeling of possession... *he belongs to me.*
- ❖ Here, she expresses a kind of ownership.

In the second expressed desire, she senses his claim of possession of her:

Song of Solomon 6:3 - *"I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine: he feedeth among the lilies."*

- ❖ She now feels "I am his" and "He is mine." The order becomes repositioned.
- ❖ Here is the realization of his love for her. *I am his... special and selected. He values me.*
- ❖ Now, she is expressing that his love for her is greater than her love for him.

The third expression reveals even more:

Song of Solomon 7:10 - *"I am my beloved's, and his desire is toward me."*

- ❖ She is so lost in His love for her that she fails to mention her love for him.
- ❖ Overtaken by his love... to her, he is the ultimate giver, and she is the overwhelmed receiver.
- ❖ She is the object of his desire, his passion, and his lavish praise and commendations.

John, the beloved, reminds us of whose love is superior.

1Jn 4:19 - *"We love him, because he first loved us."*

Paul addresses the uncleanness of being joined to an harlot and then speaks of being joined to the Lord:

1Co 6:19 *"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"*

1Co 6:20 *For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."*

God's love for His Church is, without question, the greater love!

-RWT
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